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Proceedings of the Northwest Territories Regional Economic Development Conferences

1986 - 87

2nd EDITION

> "We, the people, have very close ties to the land. We still depend on our beautiful land for a living -- our physical, cultural and spiritual survival -- as individuals, families and as a nation. It is a way of life that our people love, value and understand. However today we can no longer depend only on this way of life. To make money, people need jobs; to get the jobs, they need education and new skills...." *From the Dogrib Tribal Council proceedings*

Policy and Planning Division
Department of Economic Development and Tourism
Government of Northwest Territories

89-06398/

Northwest
Territories Minister of Economic Development and Tourism

MAR - 9 1987

MEMBERS
of the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Last year the Legislative Assembly directed the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism to carry out Regional Economic Conferences throughout the N.W.T. Since that time nine conferences have been held in the Sahtu, Deh Cho, Dog Rib, South Slave, Kitikmeot, Baffin, Keewatin and Beaufort Region. In addition, a conference was held in Yellowknife to accommodate the interests of Yellowknife and area residents. As a result, I am now pleased to present the report entitled: Proceedings of the Northwest Territories Regional Economic Development Conferences, 1986/87".

As a Government we have learned a great deal about the priorities and aspirations of northerners from the conferences, including:

- the conferences showed that it is extremely important to establish a balance in developing the economy of the Northwest Territories.
- while it is important to preserve the traditional economy, it is equally important to look to the future for new education and job opportunities for the young people of the north.
- there is indeed a need for long term economic planning so that better plans will be in place to ensure stable and rational economic development.
- there was an overwhelming interest in enhancing the Arts and Crafts industry as a viable economic option for people in the smaller, more remote and less advantaged communities.
- likewise there was overwhelming support for the commercial development of renewable resources so that domestic markets can be satisfied and a solid base for export markets can be developed.
- the conferences showed that there is an increasing awareness of the potential of Tourism Trade in many of the small communities.

The conferences were an unqualified success. Many new ideas were generated. Solutions to some of our more pressing problems were offered and debated. And, above all, an increased awareness was created throughout the Northwest Territories about the importance of participating in dealing with the problems and opportunities facing the north over the next decade.

I would like to personally thank the M.L.A.'s, their constituents and members of the Executive Council for your support and participation in the Regional Economic Development Conferences.

Tagak Curley,
Minister

Government of the Northwest Territories, Yellowknife, N.W.T. Canada X1A 2L9 / Telex: 034-45538

2nd EDITION

This is the second edition of a publication containing the Government of the Northwest Territories's responses to the regional economic development conferences held in 1986 and 87. It contains responses to resolutions concerning Renewable Resources which were not contained in the first edition distributed at the February 1987 session of the Legislative Assembly.

This is a preliminary report in that it contains only Government of the Northwest Territories responses. The Action Force on Arctic Initiatives has been tasked with coordinating the Government of Canada's responses to resolutions concerning federal government departments, and a more comprehensive report on conference proceedings will be published later this year.

The resolutions contained in this report have been edited for uniformity of style and format and for clarity.

In October 1985, it looked like the Northwest Territories was on the verge of rapid economic expansion. Oil companies in the Beaufort Sea appeared to be gearing up for production and Panarctic had already shipped an experimental tanker load of oil from the High Arctic Islands to Montreal.

Concerned about the repercussions such development would have on northern residents, the Legislative Assembly passed Motion 16-85(3) on October 8 sponsoring a series of regional economic conferences designed to solicit territorial residents' views on all future development. The results of the conferences would provide the Executive Council with direction in formulating future policy.

But in December of that year, before the conferences got underway, world oil prices suddenly collapsed to less than $US15 per barrel. Oil companies had no choice but to abandon both their production plans and their exploration activities when their lease agreements had expired in 1986. By the end of that year, the companies had mothballed their operations and were predicting they would not return to frontier operations until oil prices stabilized at $US20 or more.

At about the same time, gloom beset the NWT mining industry as world prices for lead, zinc and tungsten continued to decline and the industry laboured under increasingly stiff foreign competition.

The renewable resource sector was not much better. Both the fur industry, especially the sealskin industry, and commercial fishing were struggling under severe price declines. And arts and crafts sales, generally, had yet to recover from depressed sales experienced during the national recession in the early eighties.

Not surprisingly, then, the focus of the conferences changed from how people felt about development to how to promote more development, i.e. more employment and income.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR CONFERENCE ISSUES

1 Sahtu
2 Deh Cho
3 Dogrib
4 South Slave
5 Yellowknife
6 Kitikmeot
7 Baffin
8 Beaufort Delta
9 Keewatin
T Total

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	Conference									
Renewable Resources	3	1		1		2	5	7	3	22
Education & Training	4	2		2	1	1	4	2	2	18
Arts and Crafts	2	1				1	3	3	3	13
Tourism	4					1		3	1	9
Economic Planning		1	1	2	1			2		7
GNWT Contracts & Purchases						2	1	2	2	7
Transport				1	1	1	1	1		5
Oil and Gas Support	1				1			2		4
Banking					1	1	1	1		4
Chambers of Commerce						1	1	1		3
Economic Development Agreement				1	1		1			3
Housing					1	1				2
Native Issues					2		1			3
Privatization						1		1	1	3
Business Tax Incentives						1		1		2
Venture Capital					1			1		2
Waste Heat	1							1		2
Mining Support					1				1	2

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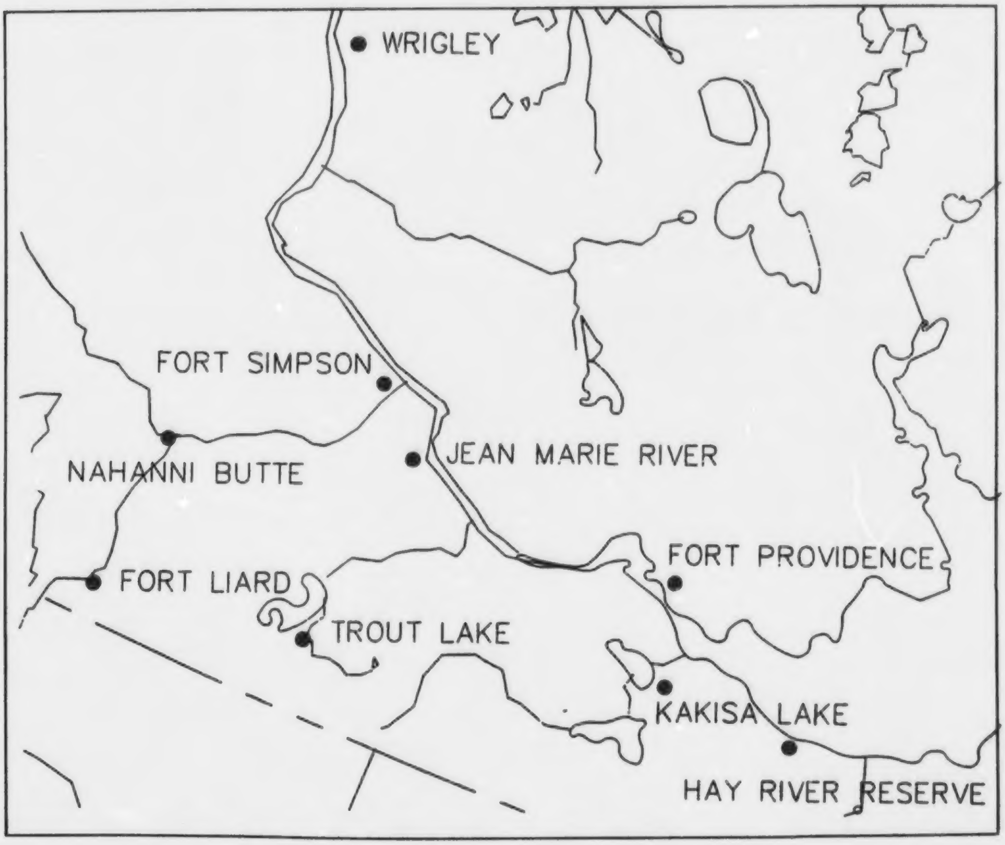
DEH CHO

Fort Providence, April 7-8, 1986

Like many of the conferences, the Deh Cho conference was very much what might be termed a seminar on economics, a chance for people to reflect on their current economic circumstances and discuss opportunities for and constraints to future development.

There was some discussion of the role of the Denendeh Development Corporation in relation to the region, for example, which not only afforded an opportunity for some frank exchange between


WRIGLEY
FORT SIMPSON
NAHANNI BUTTE
JEAN MARIE RIVER
FORT PROVIDENCE
FORT LIARD
TROUT LAKE
KAKISA LAKE
HAY RIVER RESERVE

corporation officials and community leaders on matters of corporate policy, and in the process afforded many others an opportunity to learn more about the economic forces affecting them.

There was also discussion on the impact of the Norman Wells pipeline. Many were disappointed by working conditions during construction and by the short-term nature of the jobs. It was a hard economic lesson for many, and it steered conference attention to the need for economic diversification.

Arts and crafts and tourism were presented as options to industrial activity as a source of future income and employment, and there was informative discussion of the issues and economic possibilities of these industries.

DEH CHO CORPORATION AND LOCAL BUSINESSES

1.1 **Whereas**

each of the communities of Deh Cho are at different stages of development;

each of the communities have developed their own economic development goals and objectives; and

all of the delegates at this conference have expressed their desire to avoid having Deh Cho Corporation compete directly with community based businesses;

1.1 **It is therefore resolved that**

the Deh Cho Corporation limit its activity to training projects; and

that the Corporation spin off business opportunities and trained personnel to community based businesses.

LABOUR STANDARDS LEGISLATION

1.2 **Whereas**

conference delegates are interested in increasing the economic well-being of the people of Deh Cho;

the NWT Labour Standards Act is one of the major means by which an individuals economic well-being is protected; and

the delegates have found the NWT Labour Standards Act to be deficient in some areas;

1.2 **It is therefore resolved that**

the GNWT be asked to review its Labour Standards Act and reform those areas found to be deficient, especially in the areas of: protection of workers, fair wages, wage discrimination, maternity leave, labour standards board, occupational pay scales; and

the GNWT make its Labour Standards Act comparable to, or better than, the legislation in provincial jurisdictions.

1.2 **Response**

The Department of Justice recently conducted an extensive study into Northwest Territories labour standards legislation, during which topics such as those identified by the Deh Cho conference were reviewed. The report of the review is presently being examined with a view to updating our employment standards legislation.

BIG RIVER TRAVEL ASSOCIATION

1.3 **It is resolved that**

the Big River Travel Association (BRTA) be reviewed by each community in Deh Cho; and

each community have an opportunity to join BRTA or set up some other tourism organization for the Deh Cho region.

1.3 **Response**

The 1980 Action Plan for Tourism recommended that the tourism industry be organized into six zones. These zones were viewed as development and marketing zones. They were recommended because it was felt the NWT was too large to be perceived as "the destination". It was also felt that each zone should be recognized as unique compared to the others due to different resources, attractions and developments. Therefore each zone would have a distinct image.

The Government funds the Tourism Industry Association and the six zones, one of which is Big River Travel Association. TIA received $50,000 of core funding for 1986/87 and BRTA received $37,000. It is believed that this system is the best possible. It provides assistance to tourism operators and potential operators.

Each community, business or interest group is welcome to join the zone in which it is located. Specific fee structures are in place for memberships.

ARTS AND CRAFTS TRAINING

1.4 **Whereas**

the Arts and Craft sector has considerable economic potential;

many communities are interested in developing sector; and

some communities are having difficulty beginning to develop arts and crafts industries;

1.4 **It is therefore resolved that**

the GNWT be asked to hold a series of Arts and Crafts training workshops;

the workshops touch on business, marketing and art techniques; and a regional arts and crafts session be held in the summer, enabling master crafts people of Deh Cho to exchange their techniques among themselves and others within the Deh Cho region.

1.4 **Response**

The Arts and Crafts section of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism is organizing a Dene-Metis Symposium to address product development, market development and business interests identified by industry spokesmen. The section does organize training workshops and any suggested by associations or groups are welcomed.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC PLANNER

1.5 **Whereas**

conference delegates have indicated uncertainty about the relationship between community, regional, and territorial corporations;

and the Deh Cho Regional Council has applied for EDA funding to hire a regional economic planner;

1.5 **It is therefore resolved that**

the GNWT be asked to approve the Deh Cho Regional Council's economic planner application; and

the planner be directed to develop policy options regarding the relationship between the community, regional, and territorial corporations.

1.5 **Response**

Provisions have been made for economic planners and for implementation of existing and new economic plans under the renewed Economic Development Agreement.

ENTREPRENEURIAL TRAINING

1.6 **Whereas**

the people of Deh Cho are interested in furthering economic development in the region;

and conference delegates feel there is a need to develop managerial skills in the region;

1.6 **It is therefore resolved that**

the GNWT Department of Economic Development be asked to organize and conduct an Entrepreneurial Training course in the Deh Cho Region similar to the one held in 1985; and

1.6 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism has replaced its Entrepreneurial Training Program with a new and more extensive Business Management Career Program that will be available to residents of all regions.

MANAGEMENT COURSES

1.7 **It is resolved that**

the GNWT be asked to hold one to five day contract negotiation, cost reporting, and cash flow reporting workshops/seminars at Thebatcha College.

1.7 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism has developed a new Contractor Management Development Program that will be available to all regions; it will not be held at Thebatcha but in a key community in the region.

TRADITIONAL ECONOMY

1.8 **Whereas**

the Deh Cho Regional Council Economic Development Conference recognizes the traditional economy;

and traditional pursuits rely heavily on the land and its resources.

1.8 **It is therefore resolved that**

the GNWT ensure proper protection, guarantees, compensation, and proper consultation when dealing with the resources of the region.

1.8 **Response**

It is the Department of Renewable Resources' policy and practice to consult with renewable resource user organizations on legislation or changes for the protection of wildlife. In terms of compensation, the department is responsible for the implementation of the Renewable Resource Compensation Policy which applies to any developer proposing a new resource development project; i.e. mineral development, exploration activities. The department will continue to consult with community and regional organizations who have an interest in the renewable resources of the region.

OTHER CONFERENCES

1.9 **Whereas**

the delegates to this conference want adequate representation at the Territorial Economic Conference planned for August of 1986.

1.9 **It is therefore resolved that**

three delegates from each of the six Dene Bands of Deh Cho be represented, two delegates from each of the sub-Bands be represented, six delegates at large from the region be represented.

1.9 **It is resolved that**

resolutions 1-10 of the Deh Cho Region Economic Development Conference, held in Fort Providence, April 7-8, 1986 are endorsed by Deh Cho Regional Council.

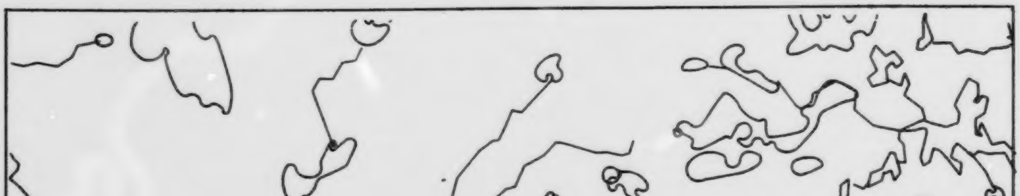
1.9 **It is resolved that**

the recommendations of the November 1985 Economic Development Information Seminar be accepted.

SOUTH SLAVE

Fort Smith, April 14-16, 1986

The expected closure of the Pine Point Mine was high in the minds of delegates to the South Slave conference. The closure would put hundreds out of work and drain the local economy of millions of dollars in salaries alone. Pine Point would become a virtual ghost town, and the effects would spread to Hay River and Fort Resolution, with long term effects on road maintenance, air and train service, and utilities, to say nothing of municipal taxes.


RELIANCE
SNOWDRIFT
HAY RIVER
ROCHER RIVER
FORT RESOLUTION
ENTERPRISE
PINE POINT
FORT SMITH

Confidence was understandably low among local business people; indeed several businesses had already shut down.

A number of principal concerns emerged in the course of the conference. There was a general concern that residents were not sufficiently involved in developing their own economic plans, and it was generally felt that communities and regional councils, rather than territorial government officials, should take the lead in this regard, with the assistance of economic development coordinators reporting to local committees.

Considerable concern was expressed about the effect airline deregulation and increased competition might have on service to small and remote communities, and it was generally felt that the Government of the Northwest Territories should play a greater role in presenting this concern to the Federal Government. There was also concern that major transportation decisions would be made over the next few years, and that communities such as Fort Smith and Hay River were likely to be affected in a major way by those decisions.

The Snowdrift delegation issued a powerful statement of the problems their community has had with alcohol, and other delegates supported their position that human development is integral to economic development. There was a general feeling that community education programs had to give a much higher priority to "life skills".

Traditional pursuits were cited as still the most significant economic activities in remote communities, but tourism, agriculture and arts and crafts were clearly seen as economic prospects worth pursuing.

ECONOMIC PLANNING

2.1 **Whereas**

there is a need for economic development planning, program development and implementation within regions of the NWT;

2.1 **It is therefore resolved that**

the Conference recommend funding be provided to the South Slave Regional Council to employ a full-time economic development co-ordinator, or the Department of Economic Development and Tourism's vacant Fort Smith regional economic planner position be seconded to the Council.

2.1 **Response**

Provisions have been made for economic planners and for implementation of existing and new economic plans under the renewed Economic Development Agreement.

PINE POINT MINE

2.2 **Whereas**

the closure of Pine Point Mines Limited is imminent unless the mine receives assistance to reduce costs for power, rail transport and labour costs;

the economy of the Fort Smith Region will be devastated by the mine closure;

the communities of Pine Point and Hay River submitted a proposal to the GNWT on February 20, 1986 seeking support for a joint community committee to explore possibilities for keeping the mine open, to which there has been no response;

and during the Conference the community of Fort Resolution has been invited to participate in the proposed joint committee.

2.2 **It is therefore resolved that**

this Conference express to the Honorable Tagak Curley, Minister for Economic Development and Tourism, the urgent need to expedite a positive response to this proposal.

2.2 **Response**

The Government of Northwest Territories has contracted with financial and legal consultants to assist businesses deal with the downturn in the local economy that will result from the closure of the Pine Point mine this year.

AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT

2.3 **Whereas**

the climate and soil conditions of the South Slave region will support agricultural development;

the consumption of agricultural products within communities of the region provides an opportunity for significant import substitution for local products;

recent studies within the region have established that local demand for agricultural products justifies an expansion of current production levels;

and these studies have not fully addressed the question of the scale of operation which might be appropriate economically;

2.3 **It is therefore resolved that**

this Conference fully supports further agricultural development within the region;

the Department of Economic Development and Tourism be asked to develop an agriculture policy for the region, including continued support for the pilot project in market gardening currently underway in Fort Resolution; and

this Conference impress upon the GNWT the need to study the feasibility within that policy of a broader range of agricultural operations, including market gardens in the 40 to 60 acre category.

2.3 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism fully supports agricultural development in the north, however it must await the settlement of land claims before developing an agricultural policy covering large acreages. In the meantime, it is ready to assist in agricultural development projects on Commissioner's Lands.

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

2.4 **Whereas**

federal and territorial policy-makers will make decisions in the near future on issues involving infrastructure development;

such transport related opportunities as the North Warning System and Western grain transport on the Mackenzie Waterway have not been thoroughly explored;

and decisions with regard to these issues will affect the economic development of communities in the South Slave Region;

2.4 **It is therefore resolved that**

the GNWT be asked to organize a major conference within the region to deal specifically with both major transportation issues and options and the particular transportation problems and requirements of the smaller, more remote, communities.

2.4 **Response**

The Government recognizes that a well defined transportation strategy for the Northwest Territories is important for the long term economic development of the North. It is the intention of the Government to have such a strategy developed in conjunction with the Federal Government. Development of this strategy will include a reasonable level of public participation, and the conference proposed could well be an important component of this participation.

FORT SMITH-FORT VERMILION ROAD

2.5 **Whereas**

a road from Fort Smith to Fort Vermilion would open up the South Slave Region and promote tourism within communities of that region;

and this road would have a significant effect on access to, and utilization of, Wood Buffalo National Park;

2.5 **It is therefore resolved that**

this Conference supports the building of a road between Fort Smith and Fort Vermilion, and asks the GNWT to take the initiative to obtain agreemeant and funding for this road through discussions and negotiations with the Government of Alberta and the Government of Canada.

2.5 **Response**

The Government of the Northwest Territories supports the building of a road between Fort Smith and Fort Vermilion and have been actively encouraging the construction of such a road through representations to the Government of Alberta and the Federal Government.

AIRLINE DEREGULATION

2.6 **Whereas**

the Government of Canada has adopted a policy of deregulation with regard to scheduled and non-scheduled airline services;

remoteness and lack of alternative transportation make air services critical to northern communities in terms of regional transportation, medical services, and local freight;

and deregulation creates the possibility of fragmenting existing services and ultimately reducing the level of services as competition for a limited market results in uneconomical routes;

2.6 **It is therefore resolved that**

this Conference ask the GNWT to make a strong intervention with the Federal Government and appropriate federal agencies to have the NWT treated as a separate case with regard to deregulation and the established regulatory policy maintained within the north.

2.6 **Response**

Ministers and Officers of the GNWT have over the past three years made representation to the Canadian Transport Commission, the Federal Minister of Transport and the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport. The GNWT position for continued regulation was considered and was accommodated in proposed National Transportation Act that currently is awaiting third reading in Parliament.

NCPC DEVOLUTION

2.7 **Whereas**

the GNWT is considering assuming the responsibility for electrical power generation and distribution within the NWT by assuming the assets of Northern Canada Power Corporation;

and the headquarters of a new territorial power commission, or the existing Northern Canada Power Commission, will be relocated to the NWT;

2.7 **It is therefore resolved that**

this Conference ask the GNWT to ensure that the headquarters of a power commission be established in only one NWT community, rather than dispersed among many (this resolution not to be interpreted in any way as arguing against establishment of regional power commission offices in other communities).

2.7 **Response**

The Executive Council will decide on the location of a power commission once it has decided whether to effect a transfer of NCPC to the GNWT.

SNOWDRIFT

2.8 **Whereas**

the community of Snowdrift has experienced severe social and economic problems which have resulted in high unemployment and an average household income of only one-third that of the region as a whole; and

the community is now facing major development decisions regarding the traditional economy, tourism, a proposed National Park, and potential mining in the area;

2.8 **It is therefore resolved that**

the Federal and Territorial Governments give priority to supporting long term social and economic development programs in Snowdrift that will help the community to improve its local economy and prepare itself adequately for impending development in the area.

Response

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism is working with the community to these ends.

ECONOMIC PLANNING

2.9 **Whereas**

various communities, and in particular Snowdrift, are establishing five-year implementation plans for economic development in their communities; and

many of these communities lack the local skills and resources to implement and coordinate these plans effectively;

2.9 **It is therefore resolved that**

this Conference ask the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism to take the initiative to work together with other territorial and federal departments to identify funding for full-time economic development coordinator positions in these communities, and that particular attention be given to Snowdrift in this regard.

2.9 **Response**

Provisions have been made for economic planners and for implementation of existing and new economic plans under the renewed Economic Development Agreement.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

2.10 **Whereas**

many economic development problems in the region are related to social problems, work attitudes and a lack of life skills in some of the communities; and

existing school curricula and job training programs do not deal adequately with life skills and personal development;

2.10 **It is therefore resolved that**

this Conference feels school curricula and job training programs in the region should include an increased component of life skills and personal development training.

2.10 **Response**

The new Kindergarten-Grade 9 Health Program, which will be implemented in April 1988, will include personal development training for all students. Coping skills, decision making skills, the development of self-esteem, and coping with the problems of becoming an adult are examples of personal development which will be addressed by this program.

The Community Occupational Program and Senior Practical Program are two alternative programs which have been developed for students who are not benefiting from the "regular" school system. Both programs emphasize personal development and work experiences. One of the many positive results of these programs has been the raising of students' self-esteem.

Also, Alberta Education is presently developing a course in titled Career and Life Management (C.A.L.M.). This course will be mandatory for all high school students beginning in 1988.

Academic upgrading programs currently operated in many NWT communities contain a heavy component of life skills training integrated into the day-to-day program. A review will be taken to determine how this approach could be extended to other job-training programs provided by Arctic College.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

2.11 **Whereas**

the Government of the NWT has recently concluded an extension of the Economic Development Agreement with the Government of Canada;

the Economic Development Agreement is a critical instrument in meeting the economic development needs of northern communities and residents;

the Agreement to extend the existing Economic Development Agreement took place without sufficient prior consultation with communities and regional councils; and

the extended Economic Development Agreement allows for funds to be made available for the development of economic plans, but does not provide for funding for the implementation of those plans.

2.11 **It is therefore resolved that**

this Conference ask the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism to ensure that future negotiations on the

Economic Development Agreement be preceded by full consultation with communities and regional councils; and

the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism enter into discussions with the Government of Canada to have the current agreement adjusted to allow funding to communities and regional councils to hire full-time economic development coordinators to be responsible for the implementation of economic development plans.

2.11 Response

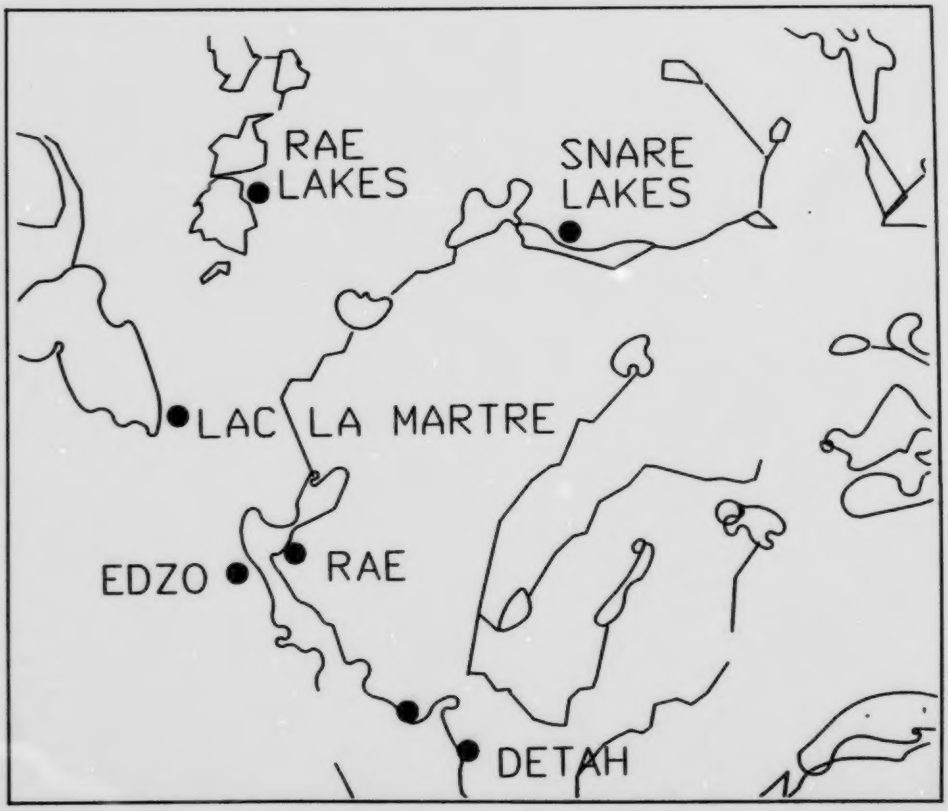
The renewed Economic Development Agreement had not, and indeed has not, been signed. More than 100 territorial groups, including the South Slave Regional Council, were consulted in the development of the renewed agreement. Provisions have been made for economic planners and for implementation of existing and new economic plans under the renewed Economic Development Agreement.

DOGRIB

Rae Edzo, May 6, 7 & 8, 1986

The sentiments of many NWT residents at the outset of the territorial conferences are probably expressed in the following introductory quote from the Dog Rib Tribal Conference proceedings:

"We, the Dogrib people, have very close ties to the land. The land and its resources are important to us. We still depend on our beautiful land for a living -- our physical, cultural and


RAE LAKES
SNARE LAKES
LAC LA MARTRE
EDZO
RAE
DETAH

spiritual survival -- as individuals, families and as a nation. The traditional economy based on hunting, trapping and fishing is still very strong in our region, especially in the smaller, more isolated communities. It is a way of life that our people love, value and understand. Today, however, we can no longer depend only on this way of life. There are new needs and values, especially among the young people. Many take part in the wage economy, a way of life based on money, the buying and selling of a person's services, time, expertise, knowledge and skills. With money we buy groceries, rifles, skidoos, cars and other commodities that make life easier and more comfortable. But with this system come many other changes in families and communities -- changes that need to be discussed and thought about .... The educational system, radio and television, the church, hospitals, roads, alcohol, airplanes and many other new things also affected our way and quality of life. To make money, people need jobs. To get the jobs, they need education and new skills in a language and ways they may not always understand".

For the Dogrib people, the first answer to their search for a better life was acquire the expertise needed to help them come to grips with the changes they expect, and they expressed this need in a single resolution.

3.1 **Whereas**

delegates agree that core funding must be secured in order to implement Community Economic Development priorities through the Dogrib Nation Holding;

and core funding to implement these priorities are not eligible for funding under existing government programs.

3.1 **It is therefore resolved that**

the GNWT be asked to develop a program that would allow core funding to hire an Economic Development Coordinator for the Dogrib Tribal Holding; and

the tribal council pay the remainder of LEAD Corporation's accounts payable.

3.1 **Response**

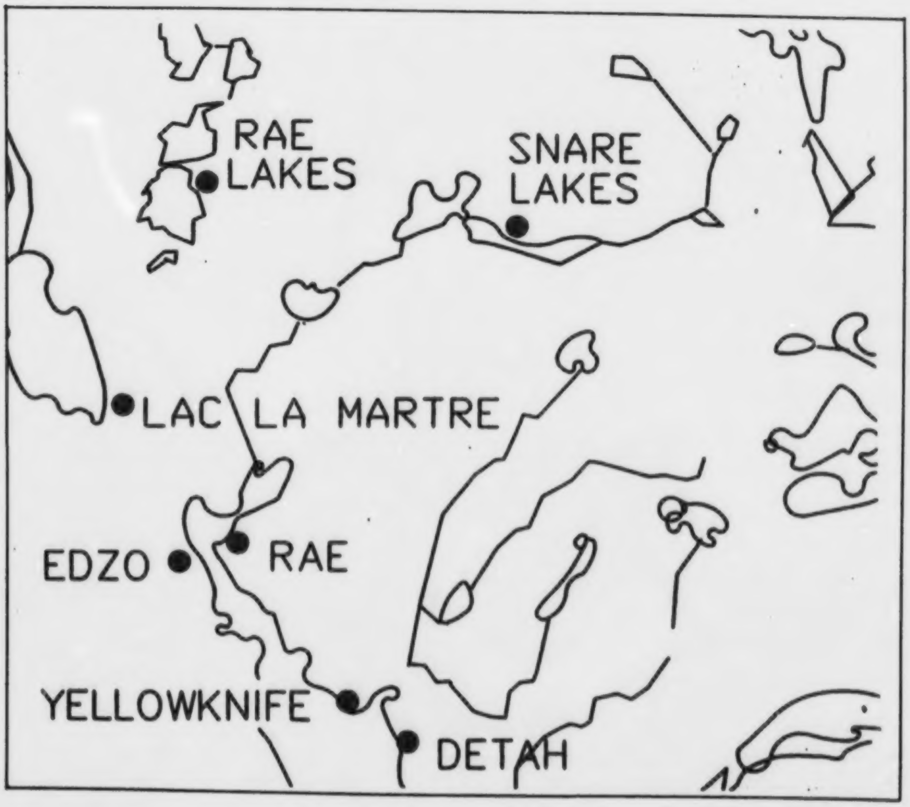
Provisions have been made for economic planners and for implementation of existing and new economic plans under the renewed Economic Development Agreement.

YELLOWKNIFE

Yellowknife, September 16-18, 1986

Unlike the other conferences, the City of Yellowknife's "Economic Perspectives" conference took place amidst an economic boom. There had been and would continue to be a flurry of construction activity. The price of gold was up and the downturn in the petroleum sector, while not negligible, had relatively minor repercussions for city employees and businesses.

Despite the economic good times and the comparatively bright future prospects, conference organizers were well aware that


RAE LAKES
SNARE LAKES
LAC LA MARTRE
EDZO
RAE
YELLOWKNIFE
DETAH

business activity is subject to cyclical fluctuations. Yellowknife's prosperity has come from mining, from government and, especially since 1981, from import replacement, as northern suppliers replaced southern business. None of these can be expected to flourish forever and indeed some economic ill winds were already being felt.

While construction prospects looked reasonably good, the downturn in the Alberta economy had forced southern contractors to move north at a rapid rate. And while Yellowknife benefited directly from its proximity to five mines and about 80% of total mineral exploration in the NWT, the mining industry itself had seen healthier days.

Thus organizers stressed the need to plan ahead, to seek more ways to broaden the city and region's economic base. The theme of the conference was "New Dimensions: New Ideas and New Outlooks; its goals were to gather as many facts as possible to present a whole picture, to identify business and training opportunities, and to develop concrete resolutions to be forwarded to key government officials for follow-up.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A YELLOWKNIFE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROUP

4.1 **It is resolved that**

the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce establish a Yellowknife Economic Development Group to develop an economic strategy for Yellowknife in order to broaden the economic base of the city.

BANKING AND INVESTMENT

4.2 **Whereas**

it is not well understood among southern bankers and lenders and among Canadians in general that the economic base of Yellowknife is largely independent of that of Alberta and northern oil and gas development; and

it is not well understood that Yellowknife is a family oriented community with social standards and values as high as anywhere in Canada;

4.2 **It is therefore resolved that**

the GNWT, the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce and the City of Yellowknife co-operate jointly on an initiative designed to inform Canadians, particularly banking and lending institutions about the quality of life in Yellowknife and its economy and prospects for growth.

4.2 **Response**

To better inform the banks, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism is planning on having a number of senior bank officials visit the NWT and Yellowknife in the Summer of 1987.

EXPAND MARKETING OF THE NWT

4.3 **Whereas**

the West Edmonton Mall has become a major world class tourist attraction with excellent communications and transportation links to Yellowknife and the NWT; and

the NWT requires additional marketing opportunities;

4.3 **It is therefore resolved that**

the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce and the Northern Frontier Visitors' Association investigate the establishment of an information and marketing office within the West Edmonton Mall.

4.3 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism will approach the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce and the Northern Frontier Visitors Association with a view to providing assistance in the establishment of an information and marketing office within the West Edmonton Mall.

MORTGAGE INSURANCE

4.4 **Whereas**

residential development in Yellowknife and the North is primarily dependent on CMHC's assessment of housing needs and their willingness to insure mortgages;

4.4 **It is therefore resolved that**

the GNWT continue in its efforts to educate CMHC about the specific housing needs in the NWT; and

the GNWT investigate the establishment of an NWT residential mortgage corporation to insure residential mortgages.

4.4 **Response**

The Housing Corporation will continue to make the GNWT and CMHC aware of housing requirements in the NWT and will continue to seek appropriate funding to fulfill the identified needs.

The Federal Government is reviewing mortgage insurance at this time. They are looking at options to make mortgage insurance available in higher risk areas. It would appear to be very expensive for the GNWT to undertake mortgage underwriting on their own.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT COSTS

4.5 **Whereas**

the high cost of housing in Yellowknife is restricting industry expansion and new business relocation to Yellowknife;

4.5 **It is therefore resolved that**

the City of Yellowknife and the GNWT establish a task force to include the construction industry and other members of the private sector to examine new options for the development of affordable housing stock in the community.

COST OF LIVING EXEMPTION

4.6 **Whereas**

the $225 and $450 provided as an additional tax exemption for northerners does not adequately offset the higher cost of northern living;

4.6 **It is therefore resolved that**

the federal minister of finance be asked to establish higher amounts appropriate to the additional cost of northern living.

4.6 **Response**

The above resolution has been forwarded to the Department of Finance.

YELLOWKNIFE AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION

4.7 **Whereas**

Airport is in need of expansion and upgrade; and

there does not seem to be much progress on that project;

4.7 **It is therefore resolved that**

a new or expanded airport facility is a requirement to accommodate current needs and to ensure continued development and growth for the City of Yellowknife and to ensure its place as the NWT capital and supply centre.

4.7 **Response**

The above resolution has been forwarded to the Department of Transport.

PARKING IN YELLOWKNIFE

4.8 **Whereas**

the central business district in Yellowknife is critically short of parking to accommodate existing and future requirements;

the development of above-grade parking facilities is a costly and prohibitive venture for developers who now acquire vacant property (upon which there is no assessable development or improvement) to meet parking requirements; and

the City is collecting no improvement taxes on these properties it is possible for the municipality to provide an incentive for parking development with revenues which would not under existing circumstances accrue;

4.8 **It is therefore resolved that**

the City of Yellowknife investigate the development of a policy allowing an exemption from improvement assessments for parking facilities above the first-floor of development.

SIMPLIFYING REGULATORY PROCESSES

4.9 **Whereas**

resource industries require an efficient, consistent and predictable regulatory process for northern development;

4.9 **It is therefore resolved that**

the Federal and Territorial Governments simplify and consolidate current regulatory processes governing resource development.

4.9 **Response**

The regulatory framework for oil and gas activity is complex and largely federal. Any GNWT/federal discussions about transfers of resource management responsibilities usually keep in mind the principal of simplified and consolidated mechanisms. For oil and gas management, one of the GNWT objectives for a Northern Accord is to simplify and consolidate current regulatory practices.

REACTIVATION OF THE ROADS TO RESOURCES

4.10 **Whereas**

the future development of northern mining and tourism sectors will be assisted by government creating some of the infrastructure necessary to encourage industry development;

4.10 **It is therefore resolved that**

this conference support the reactivation of a Roads to Resources program in the Western Arctic including the paving of such highways and bridging the Mackenzie River.

4.10 **Response**

The Government of the Northwest Territories appreciates the importance of a well developed road system in encouraging the Federal Government to allocate substantial financial resources to encourage extending the highway system and supporting the resource sector in the NWT.

SUPPORT FOR MINERAL INDUSTRY INITIATIVES

4.11 **Whereas**

the mineral industry is a major component of the economy of Yellowknife and the NWT; and

mineral exploration is the first step to creating that industry;

4.11 **It is therefore resolved that**

we recommend to the governments they expand their geoscience research efforts in the NWT and in particular in the Great Slave Geological Province; and

develop an airstrip assistance program for exploration airstrips.

4.11 **Response**

The above resolution has been forwarded to the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR NORTHERN PREFERENCE

4.12 **Whereas**

Yukon and NWT Governments are participating in reciprocal northern preference programs on many of their contracts for both construction and general supply;

4.12 **It is therefore resolved that**

Yukon and NWT Governments adopt an identical definition of "northern business".

4.12 **Response**

The Executive Council is dealing with this resolution during inter-governmental meetings with their counterparts in the Yukon Government.

DEVELOP SUPPLY AND SERVICE CONTRACTING PROCEDURES

4.13 **Whereas**

the GNWT departments have different tendering and awarding practices for its supply and services contracts;

4.13 **It is therefore resolved that**

the GNWT implement consistent procedures and practices for handling the supply and service contracts throughout all its departments and agencies including time limits on determining the successful bidder, written notification to all unsuccessful bidders, and public disclosure of successful bidders and negotiated contracts.

4.13 **Response**

It is recognized that there is some degree of inconsistency in the method GNWT departments handle service contracts. The Department of Education has designed an "in-house" seminar on contracting which should lead to more standardization.

NATIVE INVOLVEMENT IN THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

4.14 **Whereas**

there is an under-representation of native people within the business community of Yellowknife;

4.14 It is therefore resolved that

this Conference encourage members of the Yellowknife business community to increase employment accessibility for native people where possible and involve native people in all aspects and at all levels of business activity including on-the-job training.

LAND CLAIMS

4.15 Whereas

the settlement of the land claims of the Dene and Metis people will have a positive effect on the economy of Yellowknife;

a package of agreements has been arrived at which will see land selection by the Dene and Metis begin in 1987 and thereby remove an impediment to development; and

further progress on the claim requires decisions by the Government of Canada on a new comprehensive claims policy and decisions on the package of agreements that has been negotiated;

4.15 It is therefore resolved that

the Yellowknife Economic Perspectives Conference supports the settlement of the Dene/Metis land claim and urges the Government of Canada to deal expeditiously with the new comprehensive claims policy and the package of agreements negotiated with a view to arriving at an Agreement-in-Principle by the end of 1987; and the Yellowknife Perspectives Conference urge the GNWT to do all it can to support the settlement of the Dene/Metis land claim.

4.15 **Response**

The Government of Canada approved a new comprehensive claims policy on December 18, 1986 and is expected to review the Dene/Metis claims package and provide further negotiating direction to their Chief Negotiator in March. The negotiators representing all parties have agreed on a negotiating timetable designed to reach an agreement-in-principle by the end of 1987.

SMALL BUSINESS TAX INCENTIVES

4.16 **It is therefore resolved that**

the fiscal policy of the NWT include tax reductions to small business to encourage economic diversity and expansion of the small business sector in the NWT.

4.16 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism has a study underway to examine the use of taxes in economic development.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A YELLOWKNIFE VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

4.17 **Whereas**

the Federal and Territorial Governments are spending vast amounts of money on training via grants and incentives; and

the business sector is still suffering from a lack of a skilled northern workforce;

4.17 **It is therefore resolved that**

the government expenditures be diverted toward developing a vocational centre in Yellowknife to meet identifiable industry needs.

4.17 **Response**

Resources are being provided to the City of Yellowknife to expand the programs currently offered at that location. There is a strong possibility that a Yellowknife Campus of Arctic College will be established in Yellowknife in 1987.

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN NWT NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

4.18 **Whereas**

there is a National Northern Development Conference in Edmonton every three years; and

there is a Northern Development Conference in Whitehorse, Yukon every three years;

4.18 **It is therefore resolved that**

the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce develop, with the NWT Chamber of Commerce and the NWT Chamber of Mines, an NWT Northern Development Conference to be held in the NWT every three years, i.e. NWT Conference in 1986, Whitehorse in 1987 and Edmonton Conference in 1988.

REPRESENTATION BY POPULATION

4.19 **Whereas**

the City of Yellowknife has 22 percent of the population of the NWT and only three of the MLA's in the NWT Legislative Assembly;

4.19 **It is therefore resolved that**

this conference support representation by population in the Legislative Assembly of the NWT.

ALLOW CONTRACTOR INPUT ON NORTHERN CONTENT

4.20 **Whereas**

no formal mechanism exists now for contractors to comment on northern components in the tendering process and since these comments can be a useful tool for all parties, industry, and government to address training requirements and needs of the north's human resources.

4.20 **It is therefore resolved that**

the GNWT design a reporting system allowing the contractor to provide commentary and suggestions on the northern content component used to complete a project.

4.20 **Response**

The Department of Public Works and Highways implemented an effective and more responsive system in the area of local and northern involvement in the summer of 1985. Contractors are required to identify in their tenders the amount of local/northern involvement they will utilize in carrying out the contract. They are also required to report to DPW&H the levels they achieved in these areas on a monthly basis. DPW&H is presently looking at new ways of achieving new greater local/northern involvement in its contracts and will be presenting a policy paper to the Executive Council for implementation. The NWT Construction Association was consulted and had input into the contents of this paper.

COMMENDATION AND APPRECIATION

4.21 **It is resolved that**

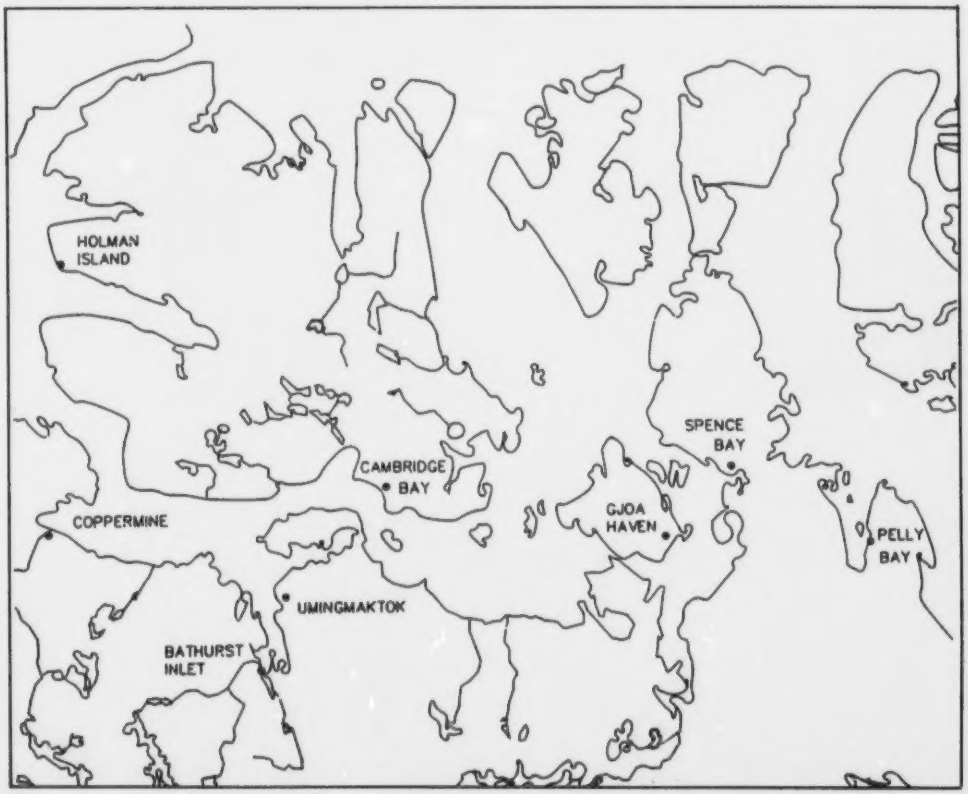
this group commend the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce for their work in carrying on this conference and express appreciation to the GNWT for their support, all speakers, panel members and panel chairmen, members of the news media and the conference committees for their excellent contribution to this conference.

KITIKMEOT

Cambridge Bay, September 23-25, 1986

The need for good education was stressed at several of the conferences. At the Kitikmeot conference, for example, participants were urged to accept compulsory education:

"The children of today are our future and they should be forced to go to school. They will need to compete someday with others from the north and south and an education would be an asset. Education in English and Inuktitut simultaneously is too


HOLMAN ISLAND
SPENCE BAY
CAMBRIDGE BAY
GJOA HAVEN
COPPERMINE
PELLY BAY
UMINGMAKTOK
BATHURST INLET

confusing for the children. Perhaps they should go to school in English and be taught Inuktitut and culture inclusion elsewhere. Parents could teach them or special summer camps could be developed to teach them their language and culture.... Skills and trades also need to be learned. They could be incorporated into the regular schools. Courses to teach the basics of business operations and how to start a small business are also needed. "

The conference provided a rare opportunity for Kitikmeot business and community leaders gathered to discuss development priorities for their home communities and for the region, to identify needs from a regional business perspective, and to explore possibilities for co-operation and trade between Kitikmeot communities.

PRIVATIZATION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES

5.1 **Whereas**

the GNWT provides goods and services to the general public in the Kitikmeot Region;

there are individuals and groups in the Kitikmeot Region who would like to provide these goods and services; and

the GNWT has recognized the need for privatization to stimulate the economy;

5.1 **It is therefore resolved that**

the GNWT be asked to continue development of the privatization policy.

5.1 **Response**

The Department of Government Services has only a small role to play in privatizing Government Programs. We have to date reduced our warehouse inventories in favour of procuring goods from local suppliers. During the last year, the volume of our inventories have been reduced by $88,000.00.

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

5.2 **Whereas**

tourism is developing into a major industry in the NWT;

there are major tourism development opportunities for the Kitikmeot Region; and

such tourism development opportunities will stimulate employment opportunities in the Kitikmeot Region;

5.2 **It is therefore resolved that**

delegates support the GNWT in the development and promotion of tourism in the Kitikmeot Region and other regions.

5.2 **Response**

The support of the delegates in encouraging development and promotion of tourism in the Kitikmeot and other regions is appreciated.

Economic Development and Tourism is currently busy in the Kitikmeot Region in the development and promotion of tourism. An interpretive exhibit has been established near Coppermine at the mouth of the Coppermine River. Plans for the development of an historic park in Gjoa Haven based on the Northwest Passage are nearing completion. Budget estimates for this Region for 1987/88 capital expenditures total $160,000. Tourism promotion is ongoing with efforts by both Travel Arctic and the Arctic Coast Tourist Association.

LACK OF BANKING

5.3 **Whereas**

there is a lack of banking facilities in the Kitikmeot Region; and

banking facilities are important to business development in the Kitikmeot Region;

5.3 **It is therefore resolved that**

delegates respectfully request the GNWT investigate all possible avenues in establishing banking facilities in the Kitikmeot Region.

5.3 **Response**

Sparse population distribution and high overhead costs of financial services make most alternatives prohibitively expensive, however the Department of Finance is currently reviewing the situation.

GOVERNMENT PURCHASING AND TENDERS

5.4 **Whereas**

the GNWT has major construction projects in the Kitikmeot Region;

major construction projects are beyond the capabilities of some construction companies in the Kitikmeot Region;

southern firms are the only ones capable of getting such contracts; and

the southern firms bring their own crews in for these projects, thereby limiting employment opportunities for local residents;

5.4 **It is therefore resolved that**

delegates ask the GNWT to investigate ways of separating major contracts into smaller portions that Kitikmeot companies can bid on.

5.4 **Response**

The Department of Public Works and Highways breaks its projects down into smaller contracts whenever feasible. of the 933 construction and service contracts awarded in FY 1985/86, over 800 (86%) of these were for values less than $50,000. These type contracts are well within the capability of the small local contractor. DPW&H is presently looking at new ways of achieving even greater local/northern involvement in its contracts and will be presenting a policy paper to the Executive Council for implementation.

In 1985, the Housing Corporation introduced separate material supply and labour contracts in the Kitikmeot and Keewatin Districts for its Public Housing Program.

Splitting contracts into smaller portions has allowed a greater number of local northern contractors an opportunity to bid on, and subsequently receive, 83% of the contracts in the Kitikmeot and 100% in the Keewatin in 1986.

COST AND AVAILABILITY OF HOUSING

5.5 **Whereas**

the lack of accommodation for private businesses in the Kitikmeot and other NWT regions is hindering the start-up of new companies and the expansion of many existing businesses; and

new businesses have great difficulty in financing the capital and operating costs for staff housing during their first few years of operation;

5.5 **It is therefore resolved that**

delegates respectfully ask the GNWT to establish a subsidized staff housing program for private enterprise in order to assist new businesses during the crucial start-up and establishment stages of their operation.

5.5 **Response**

Provisions have been made under the renewed Economic Development Agreement to support the construction of staff accommodation as part of a new business initiative.

RENEWABLE RESOURCE ECONOMY

5.6 **Whereas**

the Kitikmeot region has major renewable resource potential;

renewable resource business development opportunities would stimulate employment and increase the economic base of the Kitikmeot Region; and

the GNWT has recognized that renewable resource development is desirable;

5.6 **It is therefore resolved that**

delegates support the development of a renewable resource economy.

NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIGHT INDUSTRY

5.7 **Whereas**

the arts and crafts industry requires soapstone, ivory and sealskin hides; and

it is costly to obtain soapstone and ivory, and tan sealskin hides;

5.7 **It is therefore resolved that**

delegates respectfully ask the GNWT to develop additional subsidy programs to provide assistance in obtaining soapstone and ivory in the Kitikmeot Region or from other NWT Regions; and

the GNWT investigate the establishment of a tannery in the Kitikmeot Region.

5.7 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism recently introduced a Carving Stone Policy to further aid in the acquisition of soapstone and ivory at a reasonable cost. In addition, provisions have been made under the renewed Economic Development Agreement for greater support for the arts and crafts industry.

Tanneries and tannery workshops are in preliminary stages of selection for various regions, including the Kitikmeot. Arts and crafts and Renewable Resources are jointly working towards this goal and local AEDOs and craft groups will be kept informed.

BUSINESS NEEDS AND THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

5.8 **Whereas**

the need for education is important to the youth in the Kitikmeot Region;

education leads to increased employment opportunities; and

education is important to the development of business opportunities and their continued existence;

5.8 **It is therefore resolved that**

delegates support the Kitikmeot Regional Education Committee and the Department of Education in their efforts to encourage Kitikmeot parents to recognize the need for a good education and support their children in obtaining this education.

REGIONAL DISPARITIES

5.9 **Whereas**

the Federal and Territorial Governments have many loan, grant and contribution programs;

these programs do not recognize regional disparities in the NWT;

the Kitikmeot region has higher initial capital costs for business start-ups and expansions;

and Kitikmeot business people must incur greater debt loads in their formative years, which reduces their chances of achieving viability;

5.9 **It is therefore resolved that**

delegates respectfully ask that the Territorial and Federal Governments recognize regional disparities and develop loan, grant and contribution programs which would provide subsidies and interest free loans and lead to the stimulation of business opportunities in the Kitikmeot Region.

5.9 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism will consider regional disparities in assessing funding applications.

KITIKMEOT REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

5.10 **Whereas**

the Kitikmeot Region requires a regional organization to represent business to government; and

chambers of commerce are being recognized as representatives of business;

5.10 **It is therefore resolved that**

delegates respectfully ask this conference to support the establishment of a Kitikmeot Chamber of Commerce.

THE HIGH COST OF TRANSPORTATION

5.11 **Whereas**

it is recognized that the Kitikmeot Region has high freight and transportation costs;

these high freight and transportation costs are detrimental to the development and ongoing operations of Kitikmeot businesses; and

these high costs are unaffordable for some Kitikmeot residents;

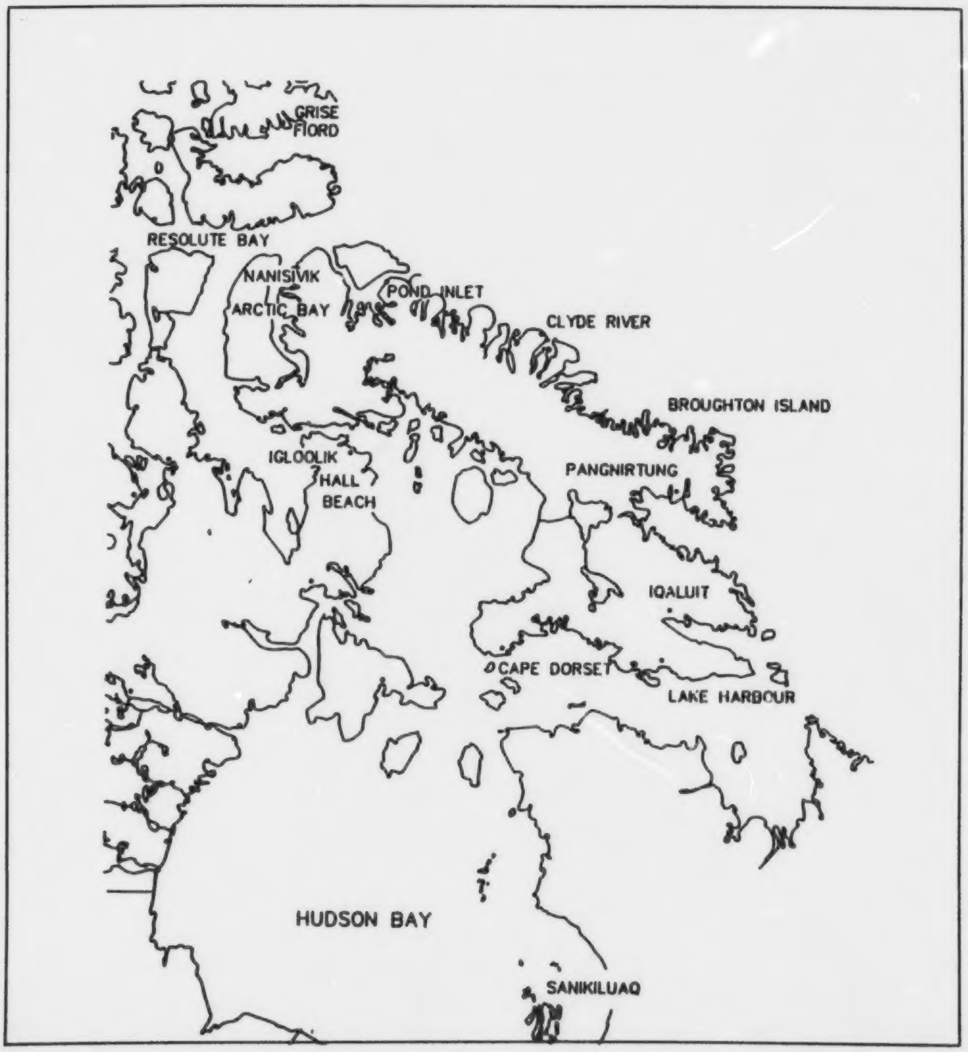
5.11 **It is therefore resolved that**

delegates ask their MLA's to bring attention to the issue through full debate in the Legislative Assembly.

BAFFIN

Iqaluit, September 24-26, 1986

The Baffin conference, titled "Community Economic Development - the Arctic Experience", was co-sponsored by Economic Development


GRISE FIORD
RESOLUTE BAY
NANISIVIK
ARCTIC BAY
POND INLET
CLYDE RIVER
BROUGHTON ISLAND
IGLOOLIK
HALL BEACH
PANGNIRTUNG
IQALUIT
CAPE DORSET
LAKE HARBOUR
HUDSON BAY
SANIKILUAQ

and Tourism and the Canadian Arctic Resources Committee (CARC), a southern-based organization with an active interest in northern affairs. The conference drew heavily on the experience and expertise of speakers who have been directly involved in economic development projects in the eastern Arctic and other parts of Canada and abroad, who described their successes or failures in stimulating economic growth in their communities.

Municipal development corporations were presented as mixed blessings. On the one hand, they provide a vehicle for smaller communities, rather than outside contractors, to benefit from economic development in the absence of a fully developed community private sector; on the other hand, their presence could inhibit the the development of a community private sector. It was felt that as each community is unique, each should have the flexibility to choose the vehicles it considers the mosts advantageous.

There was considerable discussion of Arctic fisheries, particularly the off-shore, which federal policy considers only an extension of the Atlantic fishery. It was argued that off-shore and in-shore fisheries have the potential to provide important community economic developments but only if aided by an effective Arctic fisheries policy.

Governments were urged to provide more subsidies to hunting and trapping.

Parks Canada was urged to make better use of local Inuit knowledge in the identification and management of parks and to make its needs for supplies and services known to local businesses. Training was stressed as crucial to successful tourism development.

TRADITIONAL ECONOMY OF THE BAFFIN REGION

6.1 Whereas

the hunting and fishing economy of the Baffin Region is recognized as the region's primary industry;

this traditional economy cannot be measured by a simple cash in/cash out balance sheet, but must include a recognition of such factors as the maintenance of cultural institutions and nutrition; and

this region is committed to replacing as many imports as possible with products harvested and manufactured at the community level;

6.1 It is therefore recognized that

this traditional economy requires assistance, as does any other industry supported by government, and that this assistance should be provided at the community and harvester level.

6.1 Response

The territorial and federal governments provide support to hunters through the Primary Producers program under Special ARDA. The Economic Development Agreement will provide further assistance for industries developed in support of import replacement. The Department of Economic Development and Tourism recently passed a Commercial Renewable Resource Policy in support of rational commercial use of renewable resources.

The Department of Renewable Resources provides direct assistance and support to the traditional economy through grants and contributions to community harvester organizations and individual harvesters. These support programs includes the following:

Outpost Camp Program
Trapper Incentive Grants
Community Harvest Assistance Program
Sealskin Subsidy

The Department of Renewable Resources will also maintain a direct involvement in determining alternative uses of renewable resources which may influence allocation for traditional uses. The Department of Renewable Resources and the GNWT are dedicated to the effort to counter the ill effects of animal rights groups through promotional campaigns, trapper education etc. and both are providing financial assistance in the search for new markets for animal products and by-products.

6.2 **Whereas**

the hunting economy is a cornerstone of Inuit life; and

this industry is under attack at an international level.

6.2 **It is therefore recognized that**

the Baffin Region supports the initiatives by the Inuit Circumpolar Conference and the GNWT to counteract the damages rendered by the anti-harvesting lobby.

REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

6.3 **Whereas**

the Baffin Region businesses have had difficulties communicating information to each other; and

this region has lagged behind other regions in the development of joint ventures between native and non-native businesses;

6.3 **It is therefore recommended that**

action be taken immediately by the existing business organizations to consolidate and form a regional chamber of commerce; and

in so doing, it is recognized that the region's business community will have a much stronger voice in lobbying all levels of government.

6.4 **Whereas**

existing core funding levels to the Baffin Tourism Association (BTA) are inadequate and do not recognize the high cost of transportation in the Baffin Region;

6.4 **It is therefore recommended that**

future core funding appropriations by the GNWT for both BTA and a regional chamber of commerce should reflect these uniquely high operating costs.

6.4 **Response**

The Minister of Economic Development and Tourism annually provides $280,000 to the Tourism Industry Association of the Northwest Territories and the six travel associations. It is up to TIA and the zones to determine amongst themselves how this contribution should be dispersed. Additional funds are available to TIA and the zones through a matching membership agreement. For each dollar raised in membership fees by TIA and the zones, Economic Development and Tourism will add an additional dollar match.

Core funding is available for chambers of commerce.

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

6.5 **Whereas**

the Baffin communities are extremely concerned about the continuing high level of imported contractors and labour for government housing, building and maintenance contracts;

6.5 **It is therefore recommended that**

through a regional chamber of commerce, the GNWT be lobbied to split their construction contracts between supply and erection components such that Baffin contractors have increased opportunities to bid on these contracts;

both the GNWT Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the NWT Housing Corporation (NWTHC) implement an effective and responsive system of reviewing the performance of contractors with respect to the level of local employment and that they examine an incentive package for contractors such as a bonus system based on local employment levels;

with respect to the award of contracts, that the housing associations and municipalities be consulted before, during and after the contracts for input on contractor decision-making and performance; and

DPWH, NWTHC, municipalities and private businesses should implement measures to ensure contractors pay bills. (This could include holdbacks on final payments, or pre-contract deposits.)

6.5 Response

The Department of Public Works and Highways breaks its projects down into smaller contracts whenever feasible. Of the 933 construction and service contracts awarded in FY 1985/86, over 800 (86%) of these were for values less than $50,000. These type contracts are well within the capability of the small local contractor.

The Department of Public Works and Highways implemented an effective and more responsive system in the area of local and northern involvement in the summer of 1985. Contractors are required to identify in their tenders the amount of local/northern involvement they will utilize in carrying out the contract. They are also required to report to DPW&H the levels they achieved in these areas on a monthly basis. DPW&H is presently looking at new ways of achieving even greater local/northern involvement in its contracts and will be presenting a policy paper to the Executive Council for implementation.

The Department of Public Works and Highways has well defined tendering procedures it follows in awarding contracts; i.e., Contract Regulations, Business Incentive Policy, Calling Tenders and Awarding Contracts Manual, etc. Only the Executive Council has the authority to award contracts which are not in keeping with these policies. This system is working well and we see no need to change it. Community Affairs, however, is working on a document (Partial Authority), which in some cases, will allow hamlets to implement their own projects.

The Department of Public Works and Highways requires contractors to furnish Labour and Material Payment Bonds on all contracts over $100,000. These bonds ensure that contractors pay their lawful obligations.

Upon the recommendation of the Minister Responsible for Housing, the Executive Council of the G.N.W.T. approved the implementation of separate supply of material and labour contracts for public housing in 1987. Separate material and labour contracts will be on a trial basis for two years, after which a review will be conducted to determine its effectiveness.

In addition, the Housing Corporation will implement a plan in 1987 to involve the Mayor (or Council representative), the local Manpower representative (if applicable), the successful contractor, and a Housing Corporation representative in a process to use as many community trades people as is practical. The use of local labour will be promoted, monitored and recorded by Housing Corporation project personnel.

Presently in place is a requirement for contractors to submit a Statutory Declaration (legal document) to the Housing Corporation, stating that all monies owing for materials, labour, accommodation, etc. have been paid. Only upon receipt of a Statutory Declaration will payment be made to a contractor. All contract payments are subject to holdbacks which are released at the satisfactory conclusion of a contract.

FUNDING PROGRAMS

6.6 **Whereas**

there is a fundamental lack of coordination between and within federal and territorial funding programs;

there is very little accountability on decision-making associated with these programs because associated boards and review staff are located in Yellowknife; and

there is serious lack of understanding at the community level of the scope and criteria of all the business incentive and training programs;

6.6 **It is therefore recommended that**

the Department of Economic Development and Tourism improve their communication of programs at the community level and improve their communication in general of business opportunities and successes throughout the region;

the department investigate production of a television series on businesses in the Territories;

the GNWT or regional chamber of commerce investigate provision of facsimile machines in each community to facilitate communication between businesses and government throughout the region; and

funding programs such as EDA and Special ARDA review their administrative process to reduce the onerous and confusing paperwork associated with each grant.

6.6 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism is preparing an informational package describing its programs and services, including profiles of successful businesses. The package will include videotapes. The Department believes it will soon be possible for all communities to send and receive written and graphic information using existing computer technology. EDA officials are aware of the need to make program forms easier to complete.

6.7 **Whereas**

EDA and Special ARDA are not accountable to the Baffin Region by virtue of the decision-making boards being located in Yellowknife;

6.7 **It is therefore recommended that**

these decision-making bodies be decentralized to the regions and, as an interim measure, analysis of proposals submitted under these programs be undertaken and finalized at the regional level.

6.7 **Response**

Both governments would like to have these agencies better represented in the regions, but financial constraints preclude it.

6.8 **Whereas**

some government grants have resulted in serious disruption to the existing marketplace;

6.8 **It is therefore recommended that**

the boards responsible for the granting decisions establish a clear and uncompromising position on market disruption; and

the implementing agencies ensure that grant recipients live up to the stated intentions of the grant.

6.8 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism has established guidelines on market disruption for use by all departmental loan and grant agencies in evaluating the economic impact of their decisions; these guidelines are available to anyone upon written request to the Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

The monitoring of contributions is receiving increased attention.

TRAINING

6.9 **Whereas**

adequate levels of quality training underlie the development of the regional economy;

6.9 **It is therefore recommended that:**

Arctic College, Iqaluit Campus, consider the following training programs as priorities:

a) business management training to be offered to both new and existing business owners on short-term and long-term basis in both Iqaluit (Frobisher Bay) and through extension to all Baffin communities;

b) contractor training, and community-based construction skills training, to de delivered in association with any government-funded building project; and

c) as an urgent priority, tourism training in all aspects of the industry in order to maintain a competitiveness and product quality in our tourism industry.

6.9 Response

Business Management Training Programs for the Baffin Region can be provided as part of the Administrative Studies Program operated by the Iqaluit Campus. Extension programs are currently operating in many settlements. A review is underway to explore possibilities for providing contractor training and community-based construction skills training across the Territories. Some training has already been provided to the Home Ownership Assistance Projects in the Baffin Region. Tourism training is a priority for the Northwest Territories, and a territories-wide program is being developed for implementation in September of 1987.

INTERSETTLEMENT TRADE

6.10 Whereas

the harvesting and trade of country food represents the original community economy and remains a major "informal" economy in the Baffin Region; and

in order to begin a systematic trade of country food between communities or commercial sale of the country food, consultation, direction and cooperation must take place at the community level;

6.10 **It is therefore recommended that**

municipal governments advise the Baffin Region Hunters and Trappers Association with respect to the level of commercial harvesting and intersettlement trade desired at the community level, in order that development of this industry is consistent with traditional priorities and community consensus.

6.10 **Response**

The maintenance of the traditional sharing practices and the "informal" economy are of paramount concern to the Department of Renewable Resources. To this end we have made every effort to ensure that the development of the country food industry has been undertaken in close consultation with the Baffin Regional Hunters and Trappers. We have ensured the involvement of local Hunters and Trappers Associations, and by extension the hunting and trapping facilities they represent, by devolving to these organizations the responsibility for allocating quotas within communities. This involvement is consistent with our opinion that in the normal course of events, advice concerning the level of commercial harvesting and intersettlement trade would be coming from the HTA to the municipal councils, and not the reverse as suggested by the resolution.

6.11 **Whereas**

the development of the in-shore and off-shore fishery represents a major commercial opportunity for the Baffin Region;

6.11 **It is therefore recommended that**

the fishery be given initial priority by the GNWT with respect to renewable resource funding;

the GNWT provide increased funding for the promotion of the eastern Arctic char fishery.

6.11 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism has accepted fisheries development as a priority for renewable resource development in the Baffin, and has increased the funding available for this.

6.12 **Whereas**

the off-shore fishery is threatened by encroachment from foreign and Atlantic coast fishing fleets;

6.12 **It is therefore recommended that**

the Minister of Economic Development & Tourism and the Minister of Renewable Resources undertake discussions with the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans to ensure that fishing licenses adjacent to the Baffin Region are reserved for the Arctic fishery only.

6.12 **Response**

The minister has met with the federal minister and urged him to reserve portions of Davis and Hudson Strait fisheries for Eastern Arctic fishermen. The meeting resulted in formation of an intergovernmental committee to examine the best way to develop all fisheries in the NWT.

6.13 **Whereas**

there are unique conditions surrounding the Arctic fishery;

6.13 **It is therefore recommended that**

the GNWT Department of Economic Development and Tourism engage in discussions with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation to examine alternatives to marketing products from the eastern Arctic and relaxation of the regulations that are more designed for the southern Canada fishery.

6.13 **Response**

The Minister of Economic Development and Tourism plans to meet with the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans to seek an exemption for char from the FFMB Act.

FINANCING

6.14 **Whereas**

commercial lending institutions continue to be unresponsive to the needs of the eastern Arctic business community;

6.14 **It is therefore recommended that**

the GNWT re-examine, with the view of re-activating, its credit union legislation; and

any development corporation formed through the land claims process to administer compensation monies should examine options to existing banking institutions.

6.14 **Response**

The GNWT has credit union legislation.

The formation and operation of a credit union requires sophisticated financial skills and expertise, which may not be present in many northern communities. Credit Unions are always established by private, rather than government initiative. Governments traditionally provide rules and regulations and undertake inspections to govern and monitor their operational conduct. The GNWT underwrote a significant loss some years ago when a Yellowknife based credit union closed. An evaluation at the time indicated that local credit unions do not have the capacity for commercial lending.

ARTS AND CRAFTS

6.15 **Whereas**

the arts and crafts industry is a fundamental and important community-based industry in the eastern Arctic that has been long overlooked as a priority of the GNWT;

6.15 **It is therefore recommended that**

the Department of Economic Development and Tourism increase its level of support to this industry particularly at the producer level; and

assistance be provided immediately for the identification of new soapstone supplies, the quarrying of these supplies and the development of new markets.

6.15 **Response**

Provisions have been made under the renewed Economic Development Agreement for greater support for the arts and crafts industry. In addition, the Department of Economic

Development and Tourism recently introduced a Carving Stone Policy to further aid the industry.

TAX INCENTIVES

6.16 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT undertake an examination of tax incentives for small businesses as an alternative to grants in encouraging growth and expansion of businesses.

6.16 **Response**

the Department of Economic Development and Tourism has a study underway to examine the use of taxes in economic development.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NON-BAFFIN PARTICIPANTS FOR COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LANGUAGE AND LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

6.17 **Whereas**

for reasons of both effective business practice and courtesy, the ability of non-Inuit who come to work in the Baffin Region to speak Inuktitut is important; and

respect for language and a greater understanding of local knowledge and experience are important in community economic development;

6.17 **It is therefore recommended that**

Inuktitut should, in a specified period of time, become the official language of business in the Baffin Region and a necessary condition of employment for government officials, both territorial and federal, whose responsibilities require them to assist or otherwise deal with Inuit business people.

6.17 **Response**

The Department of Personnel recently completed a survey to assess the language capabilities of its Public Service employees. The results of the survey are currently being analyzed and will be used to identify programs which may be required to implement government policies on official languages.

DECENTRALIZATION OF BUDGETARY AUTHORITY

6.18 **Whereas**

there are difficulties in establishing business and economic development projects due to distances from administrative centres culture, and language;

a shift of more budget-related decision-making powers to the community level would overcome some of the problems of misunderstanding, delays, and accountability; and

such a shift would necessarily reduce present levels of discretionary power at the territorial and federal level;

6.18 **It is therefore recommended that**

consideration be given to developing specific targets and schedules to implement a general strategy for decentralization of budgetary authority.

6.18 **Response**

The Minister of Economic Development and Tourism has prepared an Executive Council proposal for establishment of a cabinet committee on economic development which would be tasked with examining all current government expenditures affecting the territorial economy and recommending changes as required.

ARCTIC FISHERIES

6.19 **Whereas**

federal policy considers the Arctic fishery from Labrador and Baffin Strait to Hudson Bay and northward as only an extension of the Atlantic fishery and the Canadian Government has allocated the eastern Arctic off-shore and deep water fishery to foreign and domestic fishermen;

Baffin Region people at the community level regard these fisheries as their own as expressed in the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut (TFN) wildlife agreement, but there has been no practical recognition yet of Inuit fishing rights and as a consequence, Inuit are at a distinct disadvantage in obtaining licenses;

an effective Arctic fisheries policy involving a deep sea fishery in the Davis Strait and other Arctic waters would provide economies of scale so that smaller businesses could become economically viable;

a combined deep-sea fishery, and ice-edge/under ice and in-shore fisheries has the potential to provide important community economic developments;

the Department of Fisheries and Oceans' emphasis on only very large freezer-factory ships precludes the possibility of small freezer-equipped vessels serving local and regional needs in the Baffin area; and

not all licensed quotas in the Davis Strait and adjacent Arctic waters have been used yet;

6.19 **It is therefore recommended that**

the Government of Canada (DFO) recognize its third ocean and develop an Arctic Oceans Policy, with the involvement of northern people so they have access to the Arctic fishery; and

governments move quickly to implement the TFN wildlife agreement, to head off the inevitable resource-use conflicts that will occur if the Arctic fishery is not recognized as distinct and legitimate before the extension of the Atlantic fishery becomes entrenched in the Arctic.

6.19 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans have formed an intergovernmental committee which will address fisheries policy throughout the NWT.

The resolution on the TFN agreement has been referred to the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY LEVELS

6.20 **Whereas**

better educational programs and facilities are needed for Inuit to develop business skills and knowledge;

the presence of many economic objectives in the North leaves no clear sense of direction;

there is little training in the field of economic development itself; and

there is a need to expand existing courses in business practices and develop new ones;

6.20 **It is therefore recommended that**

approaches to training recognize not only personal business skills for entrepreneurs, but the need for cooperative and community-based programs of business development which try to make communities more self-reliant;

courses should have as one objective the building of community capacity to identify opportunities, to assist their people, and to put ideas into successful practice;

Federal and Territorial Governments fund the establishment and expansion of programs and courses in economic development, possibly through Arctic College, using campus-based facilities as well as extension and correspondence course approaches.

6.20 **Response**

The GNWT is currently negotiating with CEIC for funding that would be utilized for training purposes to meet the recommendatiion.

LOCAL INVESTMENT STRUCTURES

6.21 **Whereas**

local businesses in the Baffin Region have difficulty in getting investment funds; and

banks have not been particularly cooperative and no local institutions are able to enter into investment arrangements with communities and business people;

6.21 **It is therefore recommended that**

appropriate agencies of government consider the preparation of enabling legislation and other necessary steps to permit the establishment of community level financial institutions.

6.21 **Response**

This matter is currently under review by the Department of Finance.

SUBSIDY AND SUPPORT PROGRAMS

6.22 **Whereas**

subsidy and support programs of both the Federal and Territorial Governments pose both problems and opportunities; and

large southern corporations receiving government assistance make costly mistakes and continue to receive support, but small business people in the North are seen as too great a risk.

6.22 **It is therefore recommended that**

Federal and Territorial Governments re-examine existing subsidy and support programs to facilitate more creative use of public funds in support of local economic development in northern communities, perhaps aggregating subsidies currently available to individuals with allocation to be decided at the community level for local projects, or perhaps disaggregating funds currently available to the Territorial Government, so that the money becomes available to community-based organizations. (These approaches are seen as compatible with the earlier recommendation on decentralization of budgetary powers).

6.22 **Response**

The Minister of Economic Development and Tourism has prepared an Executive Council proposal for establishment of a cabinet committee on economic development which would be tasked with examining all current government funding programs and recommending changes as required.

SUPPORT FOR THE TRADITIONAL HARVESTING ECONOMY

6.23 **Whereas**

the hunting, fishing and trapping economy has sustained Baffin Region people and their communities down through the years;

it is still the most important economy in the Baffin Region communities;

traditionally this economy has not been part of the cash economy;

with the use of modern hunting techniques and the loss of the seal skin market, the hunting economy is in need of cash; and

in order for hunting, fishing, and trapping to continue to meet people's food needs and their social and cultural aspirations, it is important to make cash available to hunters;

6.23 **It is therefore recommended that**

Federal and Territorial Governments and businesses consider ways of financially supporting the traditional or informal economy of hunting, fishing and trapping;

in some instances consideration should be given to providing seed funding for the cautious commercialization of wildlife resources, such enterprises to be governed by the supply of animals rather than the demand for their products to ensure continuing, adequate supplies for local consumption and wise conservation;

the Government of Canada redouble its efforts to overcome the ill-effects on native peoples of the North of the anti-harvest and animal rights movements; and

Federal and Territorial Governments support research and development on new products from the animal harvest.

6.23 **Response**

The Territorial and Federal governments provide support to hunters through the Primary Producers program under Special ARDA. The Department of Economic Development and Tourism recently passed a Commercial Renewable Resource policy in support of rational commercial use of renewable resources. Both governments are actively attempting to counter the ill-effects of animal rights groups through promotional campaigns, trapper education, etc., and both are providing financial assistance in the search for new markets for animal products and by-products.

TOURISM AND PARKS - LOCAL INVOLVEMENT AND TRAINING

6.24 **It is recommended that**

Parks Canada make every effort to make known its requirements for supplies and services to local businesses so they can compete for contracts; and

Arctic College and other educational organizations consider expanding programs and courses on all aspects of tourism development including, planning, product development, management, identification of clients and marketing strategies.

6.24 **Response**

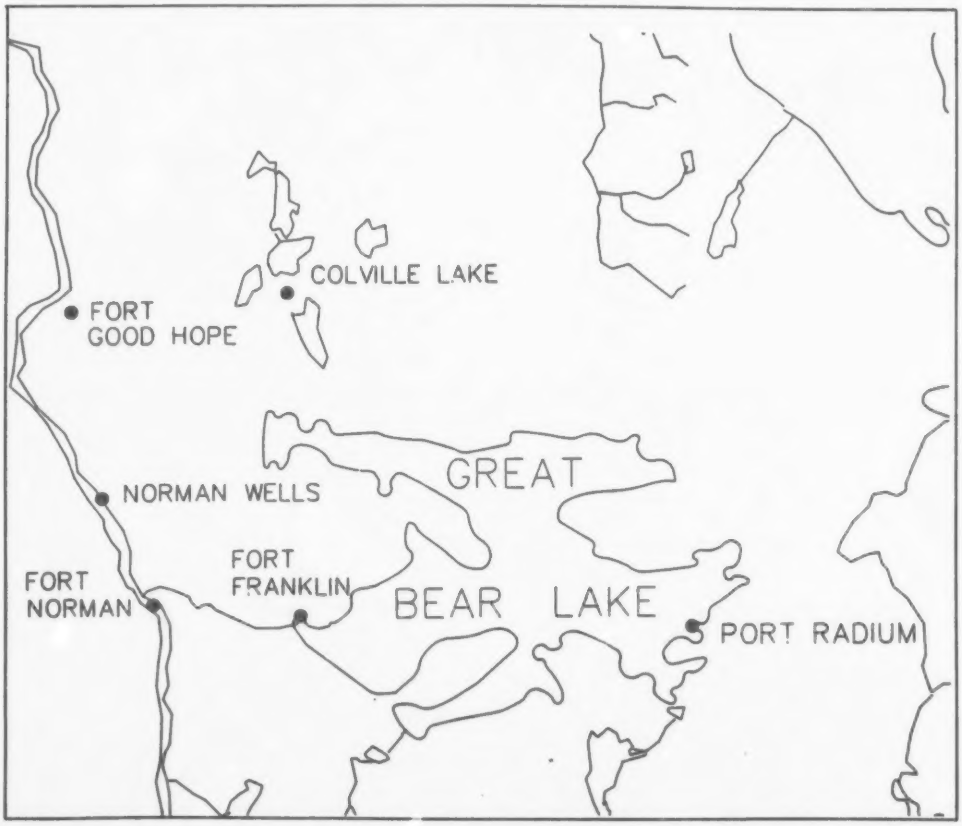
The above resolution has been referred to Parks Canada.

A coordinator has been hired to develop a Tourism Management Training Program for the Northwest Territories starting in September 1987, which will include all of the elements that are required.

SAHTU

Fort Norman, October 8-10, 1986

The Sahtu Region was hit very hard by the drop in world oil prices and the resulting slump in exploration activity in the region. Oil and gas exploration and development had been the economic mainstay of their communities for several years. The Norman Wells Oil Field Expansion and Pipeline project, and spin-off seismic exploration, provided seasonal employment for community residents and opportunities for local businesses, including native development corporations, some of which were


COLVILLE LAKE
FORT GOOD HOPE
GREAT
NORMAN WELLS
FORT FRANKLIN
FORT NORMAN
BEAR LAKE
PORT RADIUM

formed primarily to take advantage of these opportunities. The pipeline also opened the door for increased exploration in the region, as companies now had a means to transport their finds to market. The drop-off in activity came just as the oil field expansion and pipeline construction project was complete, thus dealing the region a double economic blow at a time when the number of young people looking for employment in the region was at an all-time high, and rapidly increasing.

The conference was to be the first step in an on-going process to develop and implement strategies leading to a stable, long-term economic base that is not solely dependent on the oil and gas industry. Among other things, participants assessed the existing economic base, identified development opportunities, their ability to respond to those opportunities and successful economic development initiatives undertaken by other communities and regions.

7.1 **It is resolved that**

the work of Indigenous Survival International Aboriginal Trappers Federation and Territorial and Federal Governments against the anti-fur lobby be supported and encouraged.

7.1 **Response**

During 1987 the Department of Renewable Resources will be working on this with the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre. They have obtained funds for a fur industry information display that will travel in the North and the South. The Fur Institute and the Aboriginal Trappers Federation also have displays that are used at provincial trappers conferences, international meetings and during anti-fur demonstrations to counter the opposition.

The new film "On Nature's Terms" will be premiered in the North at the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre March 22 along with a short information program about wild fur. The Department has made a significant contribution to a large northern aboriginal life display being prepared by the Museum of Mankind in London.

Successful northern tours for European journalists were carried out during 1986. Another tour of the eastern arctic is arranged for six European and American journalists for April of 1987.

7.2 **It is resolved that**

the GNWT in collaboration with the Western Arctic Visitors Association provide the necessary technical assistance to those interested in developing specific tourism projects. This assistance should take the form of developing the package or project, hospitality and management training and promotion and marketing of the tourism product.

7.2 Response

The Western Arctic Visitors Association is currently engaged in a tourism study (using government funds) whose main aim is development of tourism on a project by project basis in the Inuvik Region. As products are identified and marketing research is conducted by the consultant, hired by Western Arctic Visitors Association, technical assistance, training and marketing will be identified and assistance will be given to the operators who apply for assistance.

7.3 It is resolved that

the GNWT give specific assistance to the local Hunters and Trappers Associations in developing their proposed business enterprises, with specific attention to Fort Norman, Fort Franklin and Fort Good Hope.

7.3 Response

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism Business Development Section and the Department of Renewable Resources Resource Development Section and Areas staff are prepared to assist HTA's to develop business enterprises. The above communities are eligible to apply for assistance under the Department of Economic Development and Tourism's recently passed Commercial Renewable Resource Use Policy, Special ARDA and the Economic Development Agreement.

The above communities are eligible to apply for assistance under the Department of Economic Development and Tourism's recently-passed Commercial Renewable Resource Use Policy, Special ARDA and the Economic Development Agreement.

7.4 **It is resolved that**

the GNWT and Federal Governments give greater support and priority to trapper support programs, including institutional and financial support outpost camp funding, and training. that the GNWT increase the level of CORE funding to Hunters and Trappers Associations of the Sahtu Region; and

that CORE funding be expanded to include the cost of locating trappers in the bush.

7.4 **Response**

The Department of Renewable Resources has established the Community Harvester Assistance Program to allow community user organizations to receive a lump sum contribution in place of the normal yearly assistance provided under the Outpost Camp program, Trapper Assistance Loans and Community Organized Hunts. This system allows Hunters and Trappers Associations or Bands much greater flexibility in providing assistance to their members, including locating trappers. This is an addition to the recent marked increase now provided as core funding to organizations for administration and hiring of Secretary/Managers. All communities in the Sahtu Region are eligible to apply for this program which allows the community organizations to negotiate increases during the required yearly review and workplan.

7.5 **It is resolved that**

the Government Leader of the NWT be supported in his efforts to remove the subsidy on alcohol and redirect those funds in support of business through price subsidies.

7.6 **It is resolved that**

the GNWT give greater priority in its programs to the development of human resources at the community level in the Sahtu Region; and

human Resources development should be geared toward people of all ages and enhance the self-confidence and self-awareness of individuals through education programs and training initiatives which reflect this priority.

7.6 **Response**

Adult Education Programs in the Sahtu Region will contain elements of life skills training which will enhance the self-image of the participants.

The new Kindergarten-Grade 9 Health Program, which will be implemented in April 1988, will include personal development training for all students. Coping skills, decision making skills, the development of self-esteem, and coping with the problems of becoming an adult are examples of personal development which will be addressed by this program.

7.7 **It is resolved that**

an education conference be held to unite the local education authority, the teachers, the schools, the adult education program, local people and local business people; and

to give final direction to the goals of this conference.

7.7 **Response**

Plans are in place to hold such a conference, in Hay River, in the fall of 1987. This conference was originally scheduled for the spring of 1987, but a suitable location could not be found. Future conferences may be held in other communities if resources are available.

In addition, the regular meetings of local education authorities would be appropriate forums for the presentation of concerns by representatives of local businessmen where they felt that education programs could support their educational and training needs. Local education authorities meet each month in most communities and would be pleased to receive representatives from any interest groups with the aim of assisting in defining needs and directions for education programs.

7.8 **It is resolved that**

the GNWT implement a financial assistance program for the development and operation of community day care centres with a level of support necessary to ensure adequate staff training, education and programs.

7.8 **Response**

The Department of Social Services has prepared an Executive Council decision paper providing day care licensing and subsidies for both operators and users.

7.9 **It is resolved that**

the GNWT support the establishment of a formal mechanism to co-ordinate and enhance the flow of information to communities at the local level through: workshops, seminars, direct liaison with individuals, and that this mechanism also be responsible for facilitating direct community-to-community exchange of information.

7.9 **Response**

The GNWT's Department of Culture and Communications supports private NWT media coverage of government activities by issuing news releases and purchasing advertising space or time. It also distributes many brochures, pamphlets, videotapes etc. to the communities and provides financial assistance to local radio stations. Communities which feel they are not getting sufficient information should contact the Department of Culture and Communications. The government would be willing to entertain any reasonable project proposals for better community-to-community information exchanges.

7.10 **It is resolved that**

the GNWT initiate formal discussion with Esso Resources to make their waste heat available for community use in Norman Wells.

7.10 **Response** The Department of Economic Development and Tourism is prepared to approach Esso Resources on this subject in the event that a project proponent has need for the use of waste heat.

7.11 **It is resolved that**

governments strongly support the construction of the MacKenzie Highway to Norman Wells.

7.11 **Response**

The Government of the Northwest Territories supports the extension of the MacKenzie Highway up to the MacKenzie Valley. It is the Government's intention to foster and encourage the Federal Government to give priority to this extension in the Northern Roads Program over the next ten to 15 years and allocate appropriate Federal funding to achieve the construction within this time frame.

7.12 **It is resolved that**

the GNWT increase its support to the handicraft industry including management training, start-up funds for craft shops and assistance with marketing and distribution.

7.12 **Response**

Provisions have been made under the renewed Economic Development Agreement for greater support for the arts and crafts industry.

7.13 **It is resolved that**

the appropriate licensing boards of the NWT allow older people who may wish to obtain trade certificates to do so without a written requirement by passing only oral and practical exams.

7.13 **Response**

Provision has been made to allow NWT residents to obtain journeyman certification through practical and written exams.

7.14 **It is resolved that**

the GNWT provide greater political and financial support to those communities wishing to bring forward proposals that would allow for oil and gas exploration on their traditional lands.

7.14 Response

The GNWT is already working closely with several Valley communities towards the release of new oil and gas rights in order to allow for new exploration activity. Where there has been financial need for assistance with transportation or specialized expertise, the GNWT has responded to these requests. This work has been done in collaboration with federal officials and within the framework of the new federal legislation regulating the tendering of oil and gas rights and exploration programs. It has also been important to involve the Dene Nation and the Metis Association in order to understand any potential implications on the claims negotiations.

7.15 Whereas

Air Sahtu Ltd. is wholly owned by the Sahtu Dene; and

there is growth potential for a regional airline;

7.15 It is therefore resolved that

this conference support a feasibility study, spearheaded by Air Sahtu Ltd., on a concept of a regional airline.

7.15 It is resolved that

the Department of Education and Arctic College make it a priority to bring more programs into communities, particularly those subjects which will assist individuals in setting up small businesses, becoming self-employed or obtaining employment.

7.15 **Response**

The Northern Business Management Training Program, managed by the Arctic College from the Inuvik Campus, will provide some of the training required to help individuals in setting up their own businesses and obtaining employment. In addition, the Department of Education will cooperate with the Department of Economic Development and Tourism in the delivery of support to established businesses. This will involve travelling consultants who will work closely with community entrepreneurs.

7.16 **It is resolved that**

this conference support the efforts of the Regional Council in its endeavours to obtain "Community Futures" funding for this Region.

7.17 **It is resolved that**

this conference recommend to S.R.C. that a "Community Futures Committee", should funding be set up for the Sahtu Region, should funding be approved by Canada Employment and Immigration; and

that the committee be comprised for five members, with one member selected by each community.

7.18 **It is resolved that**

the GNWT Department of Economic Development and Tourism be asked to organize and conduct an Entrepreneurial Training Course in Sahtu Area.

7.18 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism in collaboration with the Department of Education will be delivering a one-on-one training project whereby business management training is provided individual businessmen in their own communities. The Sahtu Region will be one Region where this training will be provided.

7.19 **It is resolved that**

the Regional Superintendent of Economic Development and Tourism be asked to follow up on all of the resolutions passed by this Conference.

7.19 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism in all regions is prepared to work with residents of the respective regions in following up on conference resolutions.

7.20 **It is resolved that**

this conference recommend that a territorial conference be held to follow up on recommendations and resolutions flowing from the regional economic conferences.

the Minister of Economic Development be asked to host a territorial-wide Native Businesses Summit within 12 months.

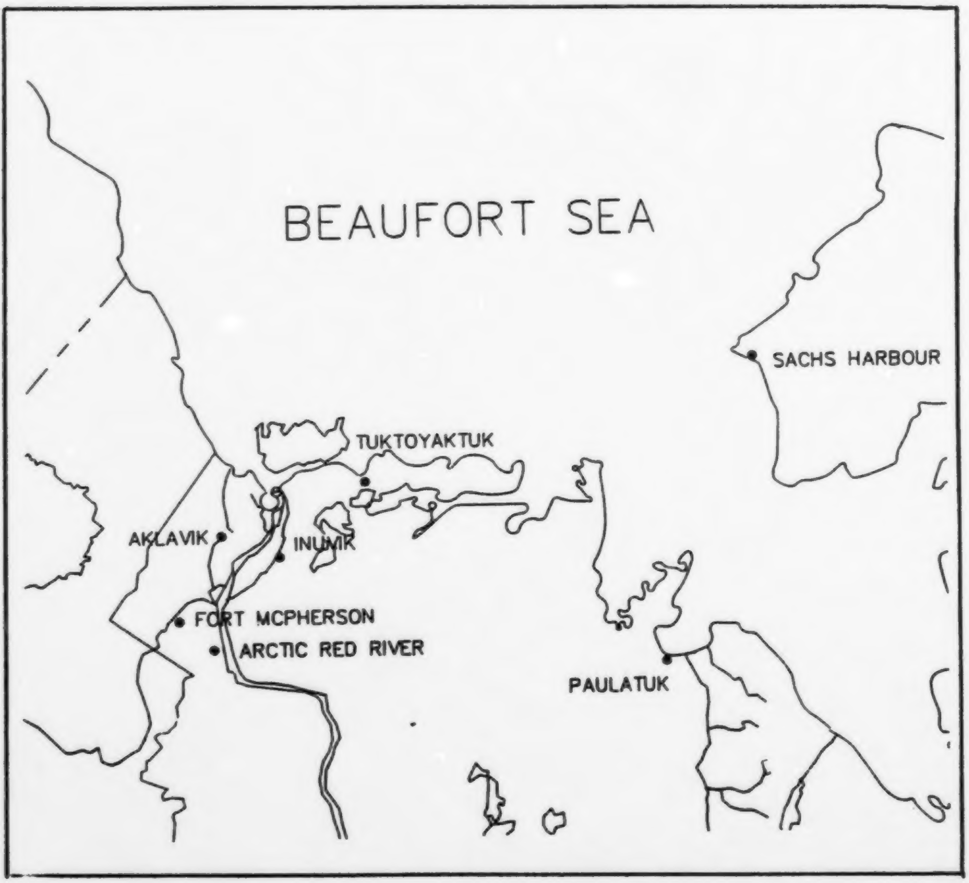
7.20 **Response**

This document has been tabled in the Legislative Assembly. A special committee is being formed to develop an economic strategy for the NWT, and a territorial conference will be considered as part of that process.

BEAUFORT DELTA

Inuvik, November 12-14, 1986

The Inuvik Region was hardest hit by the slump in the petroleum sector. Like the Sahtu Region, regional residents and businesses had come to rely heavily on oil and gas exploration. According to industry reports, petroleum companies generated hundreds of jobs and millions of dollars in wages and local business purchases in 1985. By the time of the conference, the oil companies, their


BEAUFORT SEA
SACHS HARBOUR
TUKTOYAKTUK
AKLAVIK
INUVIK
FORT MCPHERSON
ARCTIC RED RIVER
PAULATUK

jobs and their purchases had virtually disappeared. The closure of the Canadian Armed Forces base in the Town of Inuvik has only made matters worse for residents there.

The group suffering the greatest impact are young adults who for most of their working lives have enjoyed the independence provided by regular, well-paid employment. This group does not have the ability to revert to the traditional lifestyle, nor at present does it have the skills and experience needed for employment in other sectors.

The purpose of the conference was to provide a public forum for discussion of projects that could provide new employment and business opportunities in the Beaufort Delta area. Lists of proposed new projects were distributed with an invitation to comment on the proposals and to provide new suggestions. In the end participants considered 145 projects with an estimated cost of over $2.5 billion, ranging from the $750 million export gas pipeline to $1,000 for community tours.

HARVESTING WORKSHOP

8.1 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT base a liaison officer in communities without either a Wildlife Officer or an Economic Development Officer, such as Arctic Red River, Paulatuk and Sachs Harbour, to assist in the development of economic opportunities using local resources.

8.1 **Response**

A renewed Economic Development Agreement is expected to have provision to place special advisors in communities to assist with the implementation of feasible economic projects.

8.2 **It is recommended that**

Agriculture Canada base a federal meat inspector in the region for commercial production and export of reindeer, caribou and muskox meat.

8.2 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism is negotiating with Agriculture Canada for the provision of meat inspection services in the Northwest Territories.

8.3 **It is recommended that**

GNWT Economic Development and GNWT Renewable Resources Departments cooperate with the residents in Beaufort Delta communities for the responsible development of renewable resources projects.

8.3 **Response**

The two departments will have representation on the management committee of a renewed Economic Development Agreement, under which funds will be available for renewable resource projects.

8.4 **It is recommended that**

community and regional Hunters and Trappers Associations obtain practical information for their members from the NWT and Federal Governments on how to qualify and apply for Workers' Compensation, Unemployment Insurance benefits and general insurance on assets and personal disability.

8.4 **Response**

The Department of Renewable Resources developed and distributed a Hunters' and Trappers' Association Secretary/Managers manual during this fiscal year; the manual allows for additional information to be added on various government programs. The above information will be sent to each Hunters' and Trappers' Association for their reference and use.

8.5 **It is recommended that**

the Aklavik, Arctic Red River and Fort McPherson Dene Bands, Metis Associations and Hunters and Trappers Associations develop a renewable resources plan for area benefits from a Dall Sheep hunting program.

8.5 **Response**

The Department of Renewable Resources agrees that a plan for the development of the Dall Sheep resource in the

Richardson Mountains area should be prepared. We are glad to see that some organizations have already initiated discussions with our Regional offices in Inuvik and recommend that any other interested parties speak up now and become involved.

There has been an ongoing co-operative research program on these sheep conducted by the Yukon Game Branch and our own Wildlife Management Staff. The final report on this research should be ready this summer and was to be the technical basis of a management plan for these sheep, following our normal planning process. Several factors which shall have to be considered in developing this plan are:

- Yukon residents' access to the sheep population as it crosses over the Yukon//Northwest Territories border.
- access by our own resident hunters at the same time as we allow access to non-residents.
- the total amount of hunting pressure which could be sustained by the sheep.

As with our other management plans, one of our main aims will be to receive direction from all components of the public concerning the strategies to be followed for the future management of this population.

8.6 **It is recommended that**

community Hunters and Trappers Associations form a regional cooperative for the preparation, processing, distribution and sale of country foods.

8.7 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT provide additional funds for Hunters and Trappers Associations administration and project development.

8.7 **Response**

During the previous fiscal year core funding to community organizations was increased based on a formula of number of General Hunting license holders in a community and fur sales. In addition organizations can obtain additional funding upon review of a proposed work plan. The Department of Renewable Resources also contributes funding to allow organizations to hire Secretary/Managers which was also initiated within the past fiscal year.

8.8 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT expand the positive fur harvesting information program begun at Expo 86 by continuing with similar displays and performances at international meetings and fur auctions.

8.8 **Response**

During 1987 the Department of Renewable Resources will be working with the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre. They have obtained funds for a fur industry information display that will travel in the North and the South. The Fur Institute and the Aboriginal Trappers Federation also have displays that are used at provincial trappers conferences, international meetings and during anti-fur demonstrations to counter the opposition.

The new film "On Nature's Terms" will be premiered in the North at the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre March 22 along with a short information program about wild fur. The Department has made a significant contribution to a large northern aboriginal life display being prepared by the Museum of Mankind in London.

Successful northern tours for European journalists were carried out during 1986. Another tour of the eastern arctic is arranged for six European and American journalists for April of 1987.

8.9 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT and Federal Government Action Force on Northern Initiatives take action to correct the current land use, poaching and ownership issues of the Canadian Reindeer Project to maintain this valuable renewable resource.

8.9 **Response**

The resolution has been brought to the attention of the Department of Renewable Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories. The Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs is aware of the situation and his officials are involved.

8.10 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT and Indian Affairs and Northern Development organize the Canadian Reindeer Research Institute for research and training to develop reindeer husbandry in the Western Arctic and other Northwest Territories locations with a program involving herding, slaughtering, handicrafts, marketing, tourism and social effects.

8.10 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism supports the concept of reindeer husbandry and will examine the merits of establishing a foundation in conjunction with the

Department of Renewable Resources and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.

8.11 **It is recommended that**

the NWT and Federal Governments jointly compile and review all the research conducted on Western Arctic Polar Bears and use this information to consider community Polar Bear quota increases.

8.11 **Response**

The Wildlife Management Division is currently working on a Beaufort Sea Polar Bear Management Plan. The plan involves cooperative analysis of all existing data on polar bears with the Canadian Wildlife Service and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. New data has been collected recently from surveys in the area. The plan will be completed by December 1987, and should provide a rational basis for quota re-evaluation.

8.12 **It is recommended that**

Fisheries and Oceans identify, with additional research if needed, commercial fishery resources available in rivers, lakes and offshore waters.

8.12 **Response**

The above resolution has been forwarded to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

8.13 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT ask the Federal Government to initiate negotiations with the USA Government to have the US Marine Mammals

Protection Act amended to accommodate the development of commercial renewable resources in the Northwest Territories.

8.13 **Response**
The Government of the Northwest Territories is currently exploring the possibility of raising the question of amending the US Marine Mammal Protection Act in the Free Trade Talks with the U.S.A. The Deputy Minister of Renewable Resources is a member of the team examining items which may become part of these talks. The following arguments are being considered:

1. None of the commercially utilized species are endangered. Current populations of marine mammals are capable of sustaining traditional harvest levels, while increased harvests of certain species could occur in certain areas.

2. Opportunities for trade in seal products with the U.S. could well replace lost European markets in the medium term. U.S. trade could also provide the strength and stability required by the sealing industry to re-establish European markets in the medium to long term. There are additional opportunities for sport hunting and arts and crafts based on marine mammal resources.

3. New initiatives such as seal harvest for the production of tanned leather products has the potential to replace a portion of the market lost for other products.

PROCESSING WORKSHOP

8.14 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT develop purchasing policies that will stimulate the use of local fur products, such as coats and hats, and the development of community manufacturing expertise.

8.14 **Response**

The Department of Renewable Resources is examining ways in which the GNWT purchases might bolster the local fur market; the Department of Economic Development and Tourism is assisting development corporations to promote new leather and fur products in domestic and foreign markets.

8.15 **It is recommended that**

The NWT Economic Development initiate a program to establish an area tannery to process local furs for handicraft producers.

8.15 **Response**

Tanneries and tannery workshops are in preliminary stages of selection for various regions, including the Inuvik. Arts and Crafts and Renewable Resources are jointly working towards this goal and local AEDO's and craft groups will be kept informed.

8.16 **It is recommended that**

Arts and Crafts individuals and groups form an Arts and Crafts Council to consider the operation of a regional Arts and Crafts centre to provide supplies, quality control, product development, warehousing, distribution and marketing of local handicrafts, to operate skill development workshops and to foster cottage industry development.

8.16 **Response**

These areas could be addressed through the proposed Metis-Dene Symposium or recommendations acted upon through the Task Force on Inuit Art. New Sub-agreement on Arts and Crafts will offer similar assistance. Assistance can be provided to assess the viability of a regional centre.

8.17 **It is recommended that**

NWT Economic Development support the opening and operation of Artisans Workshops where a community craft group organizes.

8.17 **Response**

The Department supports Artisans' Workshops on an ongoing basis.

8.18 **It is recommended that**

community and regional Hunters and Trappers Associations develop a Delta fish processing plant with Government inspection to supply quality fish products to local and export markets.

8.18 **Response**

The above resolution has been referred to the Department of Renewable Resources.

8.19 It is recommended that

the NWT Economic Development Department invite proposals for the operation of northern fresh food production facilities using greenhouse, hydroponic gardening and waste power plant heat.

8.19 Response

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism has conducted feasibility studies on this issue, has initiated a pilot project using waste heat to grow vegetables in a Pond Inlet greenhouse, and will be pursuing other similar projects elsewhere beginning in 1987-88.

8.20 It is recommended that

community craftsmen organize sales missions to southern cities for the sale of their products directly to buyers.

8.20 Response

The new "Trade Show Assistance Policy" provides for assistance to organizations or individuals to carry out these activities.

8.21 It is recommended that

commercial banks and community businesses cooperate to provide credit card charging services to facilitate the sale of local handicrafts to visitors.

RESOURCES

8.22 **It is recommended that**

petroleum companies with Beaufort Delta interests develop a practical oil and gas production and transportation programs with continuing projects leading to full scale production.

8.23 **It is recommended that**

the Territorial and Federal Governments in cooperation with industry and communities develop the "Northern Accord" covering financial and management aspects of orderly petroleum development for the benefit of local residents, the Territories and Canada.

8.23 **Response**

The GNWT is beginning the preparation of its position for use in initial discussions with aboriginal groups, federal government departments and the oil industry. It is hoped that a Framework Document could be developed this year expressing federal, territorial and northern agreement on the objectives, and the major management and fiscal elements of oil and gas management.

8.24 **It is recommended that**

the Northern Canada Power Commission locate its new NWT offices in Inuvik.

8.24 **Response**

the Executive Council will decide on the location of a power commission once it has decided whether to effect a transfer of NCPC to the GNWT.

8.25 **It is recommended that**

petroleum companies holding significant Beaufort Delta oil reserves construct a small refinery for the economical supply of fuels to area communities and businesses.

8.26 **It is recommended that**

the Inuvialuit Petroleum Corporation continue its program for natural gas production, pipeline, local heating and electricity generation for Tuktoyaktuk.

TRAVEL WORKSHOP

8.27 **It is recommended that**

the Indian and Northern Affairs provide funds for the phased construction of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway with full utilization of local contracts starting from both Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk.

8.27 **Response**

The above resolution has been forwarded to the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.

8.28 **It is recommended that**

Indian and Northern Affairs fund the continued upgrading of the Dempster Highway.

8.28 **Response**

The above resolution has been forwarded to the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.

8.29 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT support the construction of the Mountains Access Road from Aklavik to the Richardson Mountains.

8.29 **Response**

The GNWT is in the process of negotiating the transfer of the Community Access Roads Program from federal to territorial government. This particular road would be a candidate for development although financial restraints will limit the number of roads that can be constructed in any one year.

8.30 **It is recommended that**

a Western Arctic Visitor Centre be operated in the region's proposed tourism development and training facility offering surrounding community interpretation, natural and cultural history presentations, a naturalist program and tour booking for community visits, special tours and tourist attractions.

8.30 **Response**

A visitors centre for Inuvik is currently being investigated by the Western Arctic Visitors Association

Tourism Study. It has been suggested that the centre incorporate several uses and this is also being investigated. As the long term aspects of this project will have a great effect on the number of visitors that come to the area it will be given all the support necessary to ensure its success.

8.31 **It is recommended that**

NWT Tourism support the Community Hosts Program and Visitor Information Centres in all Western Arctic communities.

8.31 **Response**

Although there is no specific "Host Program" at present, there is a community tour packaging program which includes assistance for a community package tour organizer/manager. Funding requests under this program should be directed to the Western Arctic Visitors Association. The zones must have the applications for such funds prior to the beginning of each fiscal year so these needed funds can be identified when each zone submits its annual request for priority funding.

Currently there are plans in place or being prepared for regional visitor centres in several communities in the NWT including: Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet and Inuvik. However, smaller centres may also wish to have a scaled down version of a visitor centre appropriate in scale to the level of visitation to be expected. In these instances, centres could be established in hamlet offices, libraries or local museums. Development funds for such facilities will be available through the new Economic Development Agreement.

8.32 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT act on its tourism support policy and organize an independent Department of Tourism to identify, promote and effectively develop community based tourism benefits for the rapidly increasing number of visitors.

8.32 **Response**

It is quite costly and not always as efficient to create more departments.

Many existing business assistance programs in the Business Development Division of the department might not be as readily accessible if a split occurred. Also many of the current field staff in the department fall within the Business Development side and would not be available as for tourism matters if the two functions were separated.

8.33 **It is recommended that**

NWT Economic Development and Tourism provide operating funds for the local steering committee Western Arctic Tourism Strategy study as required in the study's terms of reference.

8.33 **Response**

Operating funds for the local steering committee of the Western Arctic Tourism Study are being provided from funds previously allocated to the Western Arctic Visitors' Association for other programs.

8.34 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT respond to the Beaufort Delta's "tourism crisis" with facilities funding as the long term tourism potential of the region is being jeopardized due to the lack of activities for the many visitors coming to the region now.

8.34 **Response**

Funds are available through the Tourism Facilities Assistance and Training Contribution Fund for any northern tourism business to establish, expand or modernize facilities and/or to purchase new or replacement equipment. For the fiscal year 1987/88, $444,000 is available for the whole of the Northwest Territories. Application must be made through the Regional Superintendent. For the Beaufort area, the Western Arctic Tourism Study, now underway, will be establishing tourism development priorities. Therefore, applications for contribution funds which relate to study - determined priorities would be considered favourably.

8.35 **It is recommended that**

the Inuvik Ski Club obtain GNWT financial support to upgrade its lodge and trails to attract ski visitors and National Ski Teams as well as expand the tourism season in the Autumn and Spring.

8.35 **Response**

The Inuvik Ski Club could apply for a contribution under the Tourism Facilities Assistance contribution. Information on the fund is available from the Regional Office.

SERVICES

8.36 **It is recommended that**

Beaufort Delta businesses form a Regional Chamber of Commerce with the main objective of assisting local businesses to effectively take over trades and services now provided by Territorial and Federal Departments.

8.37 **It is recommended that**

GNWT Services privatize community water delivery, sewage handling, waste disposal and fuel supplies with five year contracts and equipment turnover to facilitate economic costs.

8.37 **Response**

The decision to privatize provision of trucked water and sanitation services rests with the local council in the case of incorporated communities, i.e., Cities, Towns, Villages and Hamlets. If there is an established private sector in the Region willing and able to provide these services the GNWT encourages and assists the Council to privatize. The GNWT similarly privatizes the provision of trucked water and sanitation services in unincorporated communities, if the services can be provided at a reasonable cost.

8.38 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT expand its Venture Capital Program by removing the exclusion limitations on businesses in Inuvik and Norman Wells.

8.38 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism is currently reviewing the Venture Capital Program's list of excluded communities in light of changed economic circumstances since introduction of the program.

8.39 **It is recommended that**

the Native Economic Development Program place an officer in the Beaufort Delta region to facilitate applications from local individuals and corporations.

8.39 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism is working with NEDP on placement of an officer in the NWT. The officer would likely be based in Yellowknife but would be available to assist all interested communities.

8.40 **It is recommended that**

the Department of National Defence locate the North Warning System transportation system to allow northern-based support aircraft and supply shipments FOB support bases so that northern employees and businesses can have competitive access.

8.40 **Response**

The above resolution has been forwarded to the Department of National Defence.

8.41 **It is recommended that**

the Department of National Defence locate its North Warning System Western Sector support base at Inuvik rather than Cape Parry for improved program dependability and considerably lower costs.

8.41 **Response**

The above resolution has been forwarded to the Department of National Defence.

8.42 **It is recommended that**

the Department of National Defence locate a CF-18 air fighter forward operations base at the Inuvik Airport.

8.42 **Response**

The above resolution has been forwarded to the Department of National Defence.

8.43 **It is recommended that**

commercial banks be requested to cooperate with area communities and businesses to provide improved services for cash, banking and loans.

8.44 **It is recommended that**

a Regional Credit Union be established to meet community financial needs not provided by commercial banks.

8.44 **Response**

The formation and operation of a credit union requires sophisticated financial skills and expertise, which may not be present in many northern communities. Credit Unions are always established by private, rather than government initiative. Governments traditionally provide rules and regulations and undertake inspections to govern and monitor their operational conduct. The GNWT underwrote a significant loss some years ago when a Yellowknife based credit union closed. An evaluation at the time indicated that local credit unions do not have the capacity for commercial lending.

8.45 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT develop a uniform tendering and bid awarding system for all services, leases, supplies and construction contracts with public disclosure of successful bidders and negotiated contracts.

8.45 **Response**

The Department of Public Works and Highways has well defined tendering procedures it follows in awarding contracts; i.e. Contract Regulations, Business Incentive Policy, Calling Tenders and Awarding Contracts Manual, etc. Only the Executive Council has the authority to award contracts which are not in keeping with these policies. This system is working well and we see no need to change it. The Department of Public Works and Highways reports annually to the Legislative Assembly and lists all the contracts it awarded over the past fiscal year.

It is recognized that there is some degree of inconsistency in the method GNWT departments handle service contracts. The Department of Education has designed an "in-house" seminar on contracting which should lead to more standardization.

8.46 **It is recommended that**

the NWT Housing Corporation extend its policy of contracting out community construction and maintenance services to local businesses.

8.46 **Response**

All new housing built by the Housing Corporation is funded up to 75% by the Federal Government through C.M.H.C. The Housing Corporation is therefore required to publicly tender such work and to award to a bidder who is qualified and has the lowest prices.

Maintenance of the Housing Corporation stock is presently the responsibility of a housing association/authority who employ community people.

Contracting out a portion of public housing maintenance will be considered by the Housing Corporation in the near future.

8.47 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT provide funding for a needed new Inuvik Community Recreation Centre.

8.47 **Response**

A cost sharing contribution is included in the Department's 1987/88 Capital Main Estimates which will be reviewed during the February Legislative Assembly session. Pending Legislative Assembly approval, this funding will be available to the Town. Planning has already proceeded.

8.48 **It is recommended that**

NWT Municipal and Community Affairs support the Inuvik Ski Club to upgrade their ski lodge and trails for additional school, community and visitor utilization.

8.48 **Response**

The Department's Minor Additional Recreation Facilities Program is available for such projects. Applications must, however, be made through the Town Council and assistance can only be provided to the Council, not directly to the Ski Club. The Department would be pleased to provide further information.

TRAINING WORKSHOPS

8.49 **It is recommended that**

the Arctic College Board of Governors appoint a Regional Training Needs Committee for the Inuvik Campus to ensure that actions taken and courses offered relate to community needs.

8.49 **Response**

A Joint Employment & Training Committee currently operates in the Inuvik Region. This committee includes representatives from government and industry, and provides recommendations to the Department of Education and the Canada Employment & Immigration Commission for course offerings with the Inuvik Region.

8.50 **It is recommended that**

the Inuvik Arctic College Campus introduce an aviation training facility for local residents to become competent as pilots, mechanics, dispatchers, support services staff and management.

8.50 **Response**

When a vice-president is hired for the Inuvik Campus of the Arctic College, representatives from a number of sectors will be invited to participate on an advisory board established to recommend a proposed direction for the campus. At that point, aviation training may be highlighted as a priority.

8.51 **It is recommended that**

the Western Arctic Visitors Association organize a major tourism development and training facility as part of the Inuvik Arctic College Campus to encourage visitors to come to the region and to train local residents for maximum benefits from tourism.

8.51 **Response**

Arctic College is implementing a Tourism Management Program for the Northwest Territories, starting in September 1987. This program will provide institutional training, as well as hospitality training in many communities. When a new vice-president of the Inuvik Campus is recruited, an advisory body will be established to provide advice on the types of programs to be offered at that location.

As part of the Western Arctic Visitors Association tourism study, consideration is being given to the provision of tourism facilities in cooperation with the Inuvik Arctic College Campus.

8.52 **It is recommended that**

NWT Education and Arctic College implement hotel and restaurant services hospitality training programs to develop a stable, trained workforce to meet the high demands of the travel industry.

8.52 **Response**

Arctic College is working with the Ptarmigan Inn in Hay River to implement hotel and restaurant hospitality training, utilizing the Ptarmigan Inn as a training facility. This program has the support of the NWT Tourism Industry Association and the Hotel Operators Association and will serve as a pilot project to determine whether the approach is feasible in other locations.

Elements of hospitality services have also been built in to some of the alternative programs. A junior high Home Economics Program, to be developed, will focus on the type of training needed for the hospitality industry. This program will be piloted in schools in 1988-89.

8.53 **It is recommended that**

NWT Renewable Resources and Arctic College initiate a practical trapper and guide training programs at the Inuvik Arctic College Campus and in the area communities to provide improved trapping and quality of big game hunts.

8.53 **Response**

Arctic College will provide trapper training programs in the Eastern and Western Arctic in 1987 to determine whether it is feasible to provide this sort of training on an ongoing basis. The Department of Education and the Department of Economic Development and Tourism have developed a curriculum for a guide training course; the course is available now and may be applied for through Economic Development and Tourism or Arctic College. The Program Development Section has begun a training program for guides who are involved in big game hunts and this should be available for delivery in late 1987.

The Department of Education and the Department of Renewable Resources will be carrying out Land Skills Training pilot programs during March and April in the communities of Arctic Bay and Fort Simpson. An introduction to the fur industry will be one component. If the program evaluation is positive it is probable that a permanent curriculum will be developed and administered by Arctic College.

The Department of Renewable Resources has prepared a trapper training video tape for use in the arctic communities. Several similar productions have been made for use during trappers workshops and young trapper training programs within the treeline. For the past three years the Department of Renewable Resources has sponsored western arctic trappers at an Advanced Trapper Training program. Some of these trappers are taking Instruction Techniques training this year. The Department anticipates this training will be an ongoing program for trappers in the NWT.

8.54 **It is recommended that**

NWT Education and Arctic College provide continuing adult and trades training programs in small area communities and provide necessary housing for instructors.

8.54 **Response**

Arctic College will continue to provide adult and trades training programs in small communities, utilizing housing from a number of sources.

8.55 **It is recommended that**

Canada Employment be requested to continue support for basis upgrading training programs for local residents to ensure they are prepared for employment needs and mobility.

8.55 **Response**

The above resolution has been forwarded to Canada Employment and Immigration.

8.56 **It is recommended that**

industry, federal and territorial programs make more use of the NWT Apprenticeship Program to involve more local residents in trades training.

8.56 **Response**

A review is currently underway between the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Canada Employment & Immigration Commission to assess the effectiveness and future directions for the NWT Apprenticeship Program. This review will consider input from many sources and should provide detailed recommendations on the use of the program over the next few years.

8.57 **It is recommended that**

Indian and Northern Affairs locate its proposed National Polar Institute in the Polar area at Inuvik in the GNWT's abandoned Stringer Hall.

8.57 **Response**

The GNWT Executive Council will consider this proposal for Stringer Hall along with a number of other proposals for its use.

8.58 **It is recommended that**

area businesses offer more training and apprenticeship positions to local residents with assistance from government training programs.

8.58 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism has developed a new and more extensive Business Management Career Program that will be available to residents of all regions.

A review is currently underway between the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Canada Employment & Immigration Commission to assess the effectiveness and future directions for the NWT Apprenticeship Program. This review will consider input from many sources and should provide detailed recommendations on the use of the program over the next few years.

8.59 **It is recommended that**

Canada Employment and NWT Education simplify the administration and delivery of training programs open for local businesses.

8.59 **Response**

The Department of Education will work closely with the Canada Employment & Immigration Commission to simplify programs and provide information to the public which is logical and self-explanatory.

8.60 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT and Canada Employment modify the trades training apprenticeship program and financial support so that residents in small communities can gain needed trades qualifications in the communities.

8.60 **Response**

Work is underway in Advanced Education to provide flexible arrangements to allow for residents in small communities to work under the supervision of qualified tradesmen, but also to allow credit for a number of periods of short-term employment towards trade certification.

8.61 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT and Canada Employment provide long term support commitments for private training institutions, such as the Native Women's Training Centre, so it can operate effectively in delivering employable graduates and obtain permanent Educational Accreditation.

8.61 **Response**

The Department of Education is working on the development of private training legislation for the NWT. Under existing legislation, there is no provision for long-term accreditation of training institutions. Therefore, individual course accreditation has been provided annually. This legislation will allow for the accreditation of Institutions.

8.62 **It is recommended that**

NWT Municipal and Community Affairs initiate training programs which abide by the "Municipal Act" and allow entrance for development for local residents with little formal education.

8.62 **Response**

The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (M.A.C.A.) has or sponsors training programs through the Department of Education to train local residents to become competent in municipal administration as follows:

M.A.C.A.

On-the-job training for administrative staff at the Hamlet and Settlement level.

M.A.C.A.

On-the-job training at Regional and Territorial levels in the Department to qualify persons for officer level positions in the Department.

Municipal Administration Programs Conducted by Department of Education

Introductory Level - Community Administration - bookkeeping and communications - requirement is basic knowledge of English sufficient to understand the course material.

Intermediate Level - Management - Law - Financial Management - Requirement for entrance - successful completion of Introductory Level

University Level - Certificate in municipal administration - requirements for entrance - successful completion of Introductory and Intermediate programs or demonstrated ability through work experience.

Arctic College Public and Business Administration

Diploma Program (2 years)

- requires Grade 12 equivalency or demonstrated ability through work experience.

- Arctic College will provide the upgrading required to meet Grade 12 equivalency.

GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

8.63 **It is recommended that**

Canada Employment and Immigration be encouraged to introduce its Community Futures Program in the Beaufort Delta area to enhance self-employment initiatives, business development centres, institutional training and the community initiatives fund.

8.63 **Response**

The region is now elilgible for Community Futures funding.

8.64 **It is recommended that**

local area businesses through a Regional Chamber of Commerce initiate private sector planning to develop an effective free enterprise medium and long term economic strategy.

8.65 **It is recommended that**

Territorial and Federal Governments consider "fast tracking" scheduled capital projects in the Beaufort Delta area for earlier action to stimulate local employment and businesses.

8.65 **Response**

The Territorial and Federal Governments have and will be "fast tracking" scheduled capital projects across the Northwest Territories and will be introducing new capital projects to stimulate employment and business. Some of these projects were announced following the Action Force Ministers' meeting of December 3, 1986. Others will be announced at appropriate times.

8.66 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT meet with the Aklavik Council to priorize the community's proposed economic development projects.

8.66 **Response**

The Regional Office of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism will meet with the Aklavik Council and provide assistance in priorizing the community's proposed economic development projects.

8.67 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT financially support the Mackenzie Delta Regional Development Corporation to implement its Economic Plan projects.

8.67 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism has approved a contribution to provide assistance to M.D.R.C. The contribution was issued specifically to provide assistance with the implementation of their economic plan projects.

8.68 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT sponsor Regional Funding Boards for community projects to provide funds for feasibility studies with response decisions within two weeks of application.

8.68 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism has actively supported Regional Funding Boards vis-a-vis STEP, I.C.H.R.S., B.L.F. and will continue to do so. Due to the volume and type of applications, it is not always possible to respond within two weeks. The Department makes every effort to advise applicants of decisions as quickly as possible.

8.69 **It is recommended that**

GNWT staff with community responsibilities travel to the communities on a regular basis.

8.69 **Response**

The Government leader will bring this resolution to the attention of his colleagues.

8.70 **It is recommended that**

community level applications for project funding be submitted to the GNWT at a fixed time each year and whatever funds are available be disbursed to the regions and communities on a fixed time schedule.

8.70 **Response**

The Department will continue to disburse funding as required. To disburse all of our funding on a fixed time schedule would not be providing the service required for all of our clients in the communities.

8.71 **It is recommended that**

the GNWT support the establishment of Community Development Corporations to coordinate investment, resources, business initiatives, employment creation and improvement of consumer and social services at the community level.

8.71 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism has actively assisted in the formation and financing of a number of new community development corporations and will continue to do so where the communities see the need for these forms of corporations.

8.72 **It is recommended that**

the NWT and Federal Government business assistance grants not be given to any new venture that competes with an existing business.

8.72 **Response**

Strict guidelines have been developed and are used to prevent market disruption in the issuing of Government grants to new businesses.

8.73 **It is recommended that**

the NWT and Federal Government business funding programs be re-organized into an NWT "single window" funding agency with the same administration criteria for all projects.

8.73 **Response**

Both levels of government are attempting to standardize administration procedures.

8.74 **It is recommended that**

a Regional Chamber of Commerce sponsor a Beaufort Delta Economic Planning Conference at least every two years.

8.75 **It is recommended that**

the NWT Economic Development and Tourism Inuvik Region office follow up on all resolutions passed at the 1986 Beaufort Delta Economic Conference.

8.75 **Response**

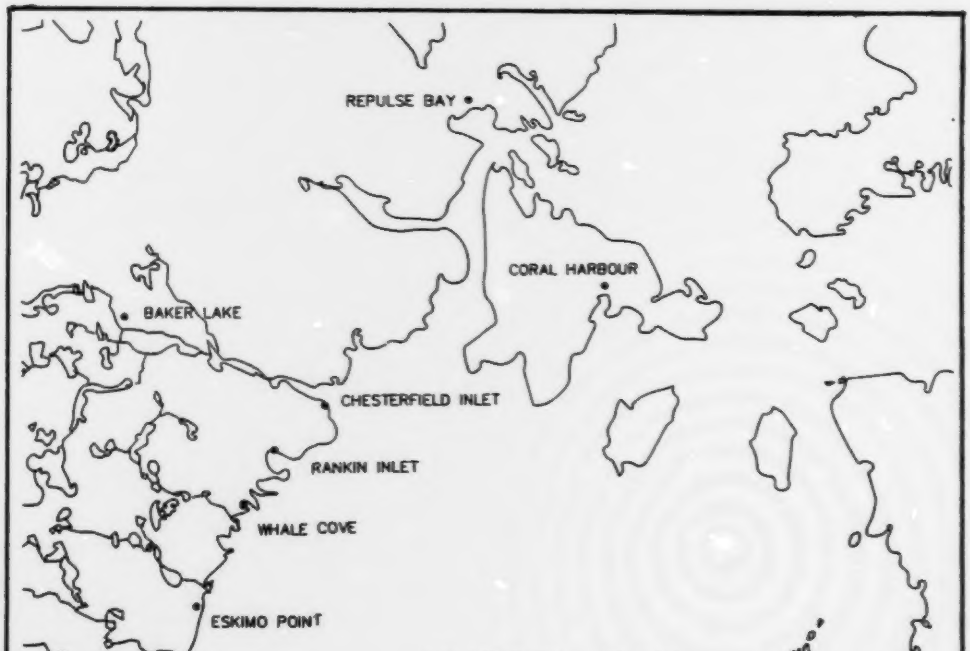
The Department of Economic Development and Tourism in all regions is prepared to work with residents of the respective regions in following up on conference resolutions.

KEEWATIN

Rankin Inlet, January 30-31, 1987

It was fitting that the Keewatin Chamber of Commerce played a major role in this regional conference, for the private sector here is one of the strongest and most forceful in the Territories.

The Keewatin economy has fared relatively well over the past few years. Privatization of government services has continued apace, decentralization of GNWT departments has been a boon to construction companies, and three new real-estate development corporations were established last year, giving local shareholders ownership and control over several residential and


REPULSE BAY
CORAL HARBOUR
BAKER LAKE
CHESTERFIELD INLET
RANKIN INLET
WHALE COVE
ESKIMO POINT
HUDSON. BAY

commercial properties in the Keewatin's three largest communities.

Tourism has also been a thriving industry in the region. Led by the Chamber, effective tourism marketing and development generated a 17% increase in visitors to the region in 1986, providing jobs for approximately 160 people, which is probably why conference delegates saw a need for more, and more comprehensive, guide training.

In keeping with the spirit of privatization, and to foster growth in cottage industries, the Keewatin Department of Economic Development and Tourism has either sold or closed GNWT-owned arts and craft enterprises. A number of delegates expressed apprehension about this new home-based approach to the industry, but delegates seemed willing to give it a try, provided they have adequate training and marketing support.

If the sheer number of resolutions is any indication, further commercial development of renewable resource is a high priority for the region. There were calls for increased land and marine quotas and processing facilities to support enhanced inter-settlement trade and, residents hope, future exports.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP RESOLUTIONS

9.1 **It is resolved that**

Municipal services which are provided by the hamlets should be turned over to the local private sector.

9.1 **Response**

Each community's capacity to handle contract services varies, but in the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs encourages hamlets to privatize such activities as gravel hauling and sealift and to contract out snow clearing where economically feasible. It does not, however, encourage contracting of protective services, water delivery and sewage pick-up and other services which affect the health and safety of community residents, unless these services are, or have been, provided reliably and at reasonable costs by a private contractor in the community.

9.2 **It is resolved that**

The Department of Education should provide more training for adults, furthermore, there should be more emphasis on business training and training should more closely support private sector needs.

Furthermore, emphasis should be placed on bilingual training in business.

9.2 **Response**

The Departments of Education and Economic Development and Tourism have developed a series of new business training programs tailored to economic conditions in the NWT. These programs include a program which will provide businesses assistance and skills development for territorial entrepreneurs who need it on a one-to-one basis.

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism has 16 bilingual trainees enrolled in its affirmative action plan.

9.3 **It is resolved that**

The Department of Finance should be aware of the economic realities of the northern business environment and be more sensitive to their needs. Specifically, the department should expedite payments to businesses, as they experience cash flow problems.

9.3 **Response**

The Government of the Northwest Territories has instituted a payment policy stating that, unless contracts stipulate otherwise, northern businesses are to be paid within 20 days of receipt of an invoice. This is the shortest pay period of any government in Canada. The government has also issued a circular to businesses which lists the appropriate regional people to contact if payments are not being issued on time.

9.4 **It is resolved that**

There should be systems and procedures put in place to provide legal protection to tourism operators who do not want to be sued. There should be more guide training.

9.4 **Response**

While there is no legal way for the government to prevent lawsuits, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism has arranged with an Edmonton firm to provide liability insurance for NWT operators.

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism plans to increase the number and scope of guide training courses in the 1987-88 fiscal year.

ARTS AND CRAFTS WORKSHOP RESOLUTIONS

9.5 **It is resolved that**

A market study should be undertaken for the Keewatin region arts and crafts industry to identify markets and product lines.

9.5 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism is developing a tender for proposals for this study.

9.6 **It is resolved that**

The arts and crafts workshop at future Economic Development Conferences should be extended to two half-day sessions from the current one-half day session in order to cover more topics in detail.

9.6 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism supports regional determination of conference agendas.

9.7 **It is resolved that**

Effort should be made to locate quality soapstone quarries and continued development of soapstone supply efforts.

9.7 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism's new carving stone policy and the renewed Economic Development Agreement will assist artists in securing raw materials for their work.

9.8 **It is resolved that**

Local and regional arts and crafts guilds should be developed to give the craftsmen a stronger voice in the region.

9.8 **Response**

The Rankin Carver's Guild is now in place and meetings will be held in most Inuit communities to elect officers for the Inuit Sanaugainut Katimajit (Inuit Artists Association). Each region will have representation on the territorial association.

9.9 **It is resolved that**

Individual workshops should be held in the communities to develop production and provide training and to handle local problems.

9.9 **Response**

Several workshops are scheduled over the next few months, including a carving workshop in Baker Lake and Eskimo Point, and arts and crafts workshops in Repulse and Coral Harbour.

NATURAL RESOURCES WORKSHOP RESOLUTIONS

9.10 **Whereas**

the assembly recognizes the need for proper infrastructure and facilities for processing meat and wild game;

9.10 **It is resolved that**

the Department of Economic Development be asked to assist in obtaining funding and support for proponents to develop and build such facilities.

9.10 **Response**

the Department of Economic Development and Tourism has programs in place to fund such developments, including a new program under the Commercial Renewable Resource Policy for pilot projects and the aplication of advanced technology.

9.11 **Whereas**

the long-run viability of country foods operations will depend on export of products beyond the Territories;

9.11 **It is resolved that**

the Government of the Northwest Territories, and the Department of Renewable Resources in particular, must change its currently restrictive regulations to allow export of commercial quota caribou meat beyond the borders of the Northwest Territories.

9.11 **Response**

The legislation prohibiting the export of commercial meat is found in the Wildlife Act. In keeping with the intent of the Legislative Assembly at the time the Act was passed the Department of Renewable Resources is of the opinion that the nutritional needs of northerners must be taken care of prior to any consideration being given to the export of meat to the south. The Department is prepared and has long since begun to assist in whatever manner it can to develop intersettlement trade to meet that need.

9.12 **Whereas**

there are high levels of unemployment in Keewatin communities;

9.12 **It is resolved that**

the Department of Renewable Resources must increase the commercial quota available from the Wager Bay caribou herd.

9.12 **Response**

The Department of Renewable Resources awaits further recommendations from the Keewatin Wildlife Federation (KWF) concerning commercial quotas on the Kaminuriak caribou herd. However, the people of the Keewatin should remember that the original quota of commercial caribou tags was agree upon by the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Beverly/Kaminuriak Caribou Management Board on the basis that the caribou would not be exported from the N.W.T. Then Department would be pleased to discuss further quotas with K.W.F., before any approach is made to the Board.

9.13 **Whereas**

there is a lack of commercial caribou quotas available to southern Keewatin communities;

9.13 **It resolved that**

the Keewatin Wildlife Federation and the Government of the Northwest Territories lobby the Caribou Management Board for commercial caribou quotas from the Kaminuriak caribou herd for the southern Keewatin communities.

9.13 **Response**

The Department of Renewable Resources awaits further recommendations from the Keewatin Wildlife Federation (KWF) concerning commercial quotas on the Kaminuriak caribou herd. However, the people of the Keewatin should remember that the original quota of commercial caribou tags was agree upon by the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Beverly/Kaminuriak Caribou Management Board on the basis that the caribou would not be exported from the N.W.T. Then Department would be pleased to discuss further quotas with K.W.F., before any approach is made to the Board.

9.14 **Whereas**

there is good mineral development potential in the Keewatin;

9.14 **It is resolved that**

there should be more formal consultation between the Chamber of Mines and the Keewatin communities concerning potential and actual mining and mineral exploration activities in progress in the Keewatin.

9.14 **Response**

The above resolution has been referred to the NWT Chamber of Mines.

COMMERCIAL FISHERIES WORKSHOP RESOLUTIONS

9.15 **Whereas**

The quota of the Thomson River that population is inadequate;

9.15 **It is resolved that**

the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans be asked to re-examine this quota.

9.15 **Response**

The above resolution has been referred tc the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

9.16 **Whereas**

the char quotas of Bakerforeland and Corbett Inlet are inadequate to support a significant commercial fishery;

9.16 **It is resolved that**

the Department of Fisheries and Oceans increase the quota for both these areas.

9.16 **Response**

The above resolution has been referred to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

9.17 **Whereas:**

the Rankin Inlet char quota has been closed for several years to the detriment of local fishermen;

9.17 **It is resolved that**

that this quota be re-opened for commercial use.

9.17 **Response**

The above resolution has been referred to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

9.18 **Whereas**

ice is critical to the preservation of a good quality char harvest; and weather conditions prevent fishermen from always returning to a plant immediately;

9.18 **It is resolved that**

support be provided for the establishment of ice facilities at remote locations.

9.18 **Response**

the Department of Economic Development and Tourism has programs in place to fund such developments.

9.19 **Whereas**

the Fish Bay quota for Chesterfield Inlet is in reality a quota of several stocks, not just char from one river system;

9.19 **It is resolved that**

the assembly requests that the Department of Fisheries and Oceans increase the quota from 5,000 to 12,500 pounds.

9.19 **Response**

The above resolution has been referred to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

9.20 **Whereas**

the people of Whale Cove are restricted by gear limitations from travelling to outlying quota areas;

9.20 **It is resolved that**

their closest accessible quota area, Wilson Bay, be increased by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

9.20 **Response**

The above resolution has been referred to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

9.21 **Whereas**

the quotas for Repulse Bay have not been harvested due to lack of proper equipment and facilities;

9.21 **It is resolved that**

the Department of Economic Development investigate ways to make a Repulse Bay fishery viable, including the placement of a weir in Gore Bay, and assessment of new stocks of char in the area.

9.21 **Response**

Funds for a wier have been provided as part of the Keewatin fisheries strategy.

9.22 **Whereas**

Baker Lake currently has no accessible char quotas for commercial fishing;

9.22 **It is resolved that**

the assembly requests an investigation into optional marketing strategies for lake trout and whitefish, and the assessment of char populations in the vicinity of Baker Lake.

9.22 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism will follow-up on marketing of trout and whitefish. The Department of Renewable Resources is prepared to have their field staff assist the Department of Fisheries and Oceans in carrying out their assessment of char stocks in the vicinity of Baker Lake.

9.23 **Whereas**

domestic fishing in the Canyon River system has been minimal;

9.23 **It is resolved that**

the assembly request that a test fishery be done to determine the commercial viability of a commercial winter operation.

9.23 **Response**

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism is prepared to work with a proponent to develop the necessary terms of reference and Fisheries and Oceans application forms for such a test fishery.